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OUR CUP PICK

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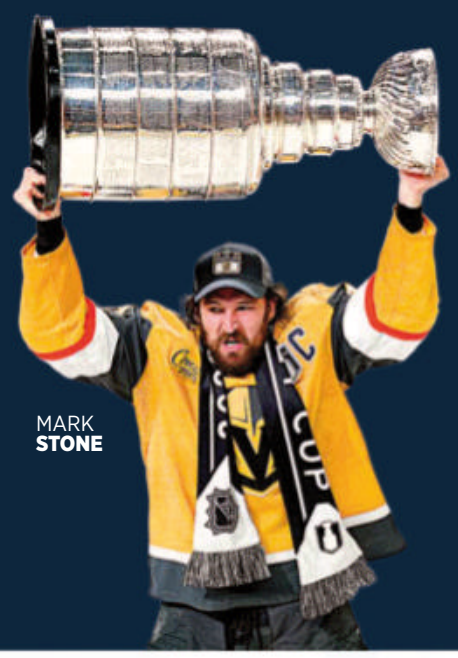

MARK STONE

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SEASON PRIMER

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Can the Golden Knights go back-to-back? They're certainly in the mix, but they're joined by a host of others who can all lay a claim to being this year's favorite. Which teams do we fancy? Find out as we break down each team's strengths and weaknesses and predict who'll still be around come playoff time.

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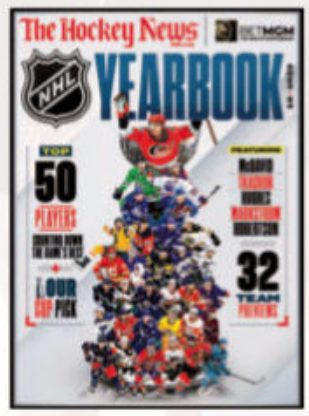

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SUBSCRIPTIONS **Minimum one-year subscription price:** $39.95 including tax for print and digital; $29.95 including tax for digital. • The Hockey News (ISSN 0018-3016) publishes 14 issues per year, including Money and Power, Pool Guide, Yearbook and our Collector's Edition. **Mail In Canada:** The Hockey News, C/O Roustan Media Ltd., 260 Adelaide Street East, P.O. Box 47, Toronto, ON, M5A 1N1 **Mail In the US:** The Hockey News, PO Box 904, Buffalo, NY 14240-9554

NEWSSTAND **Minimum Single Copy Price:** $8.99. Distributed by CoMag Marketing Group. Distribution Canadian publications Mail Agreement No. 43508014, Registration No. 09255 paid at Gateway, Mississauga, ON. In the US, periodical (579-540) postage paid at 13801 Walsingham Rd Ste A-130, Largo, FL 33774 and at additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER return undeliverable US addresses to The Hockey News Circulation, Box 904, Buffalo, NY 14240-9554.

THE HOCKEY NEWS OFFICES Canada: 260 Adelaide Street East, Suite 47, Toronto, ON M5A 1N1; U.S.: 13801 Walsingham Rd Ste A-130, Largo, FL 33774

PRINTING RBW Graphics, 2049 20th Street East, Owen Sound, ON N4K 5R2

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The Hockey News was co-founded by Ken McKenzie and W.V. Cote in 1947.

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TIME AND SPACE

STEVEN ELLIS/THE HOCKEY NEWS

ASK ANY NHLER WHO excels at defending and they will inevitably give you the same game plan to success: take away time and space from your opponent. It sounds maddeningly simple, but when you're facing the best players in the world every night, it takes an incredible amount of commitment. And when you think about commitment and defensive excellence, Patrice Bergeron's name immediately leaps to mind.

Bergeron, the legendary Boston Bruins captain, retired this summer – and he earned it. Not only was he one of the best players of his era, but I'm gonna say it right here: he was one of the best NHLers of all-time. Once you get past the icons – Gretzky, Orr, Lemieux, Howe – you're getting into the fun-debate territory of names such as Crosby, Richard and Beliveau (let's keep goalies in their own category for this debate). Based on his two-way excellence, I don't think you have to wait long after those guys to plunk in Bergeron's name.

One game I like to play while having water-cooler arguments about who was the best is to raise the following question: if the players were defending each other, which one would score more often? I would go to bat for Bergeron in many of those scenarios.

The obvious checkmark on Bergeron's resume comes from his dominance over the Selke Trophy as the league's best defensive forward. He won the award a record six times in his career, including in his final year of service. How good was Bergeron last year? He was on the ice for just 18 goals against while playing at 5-on-5, the lowest total of anyone who played at least 800 5-on-5 minutes. Conversely, the Bruins scored 46 goals when he was on the ice in those situations – so it's not like he was just circling around the neutral zone playing keepaway with the puck.

Call it a recency bias, but I will also give Bergeron points for mastering the two-way game during the most competitive era of NHL hockey, facing off against titans such as Crosby, Ovechkin and McDavid in a time where training and skills work have never been more sophisticated (feel free to disagree until we get a time machine, in which case pitting Bergeron against Gretzky or Howe versus Chris Pronger becomes feasible).

Since this is the Yearbook, we also have to consider how Bergeron's absence affects the only NHL team for which he ever played, the Bruins. Undoubtedly, the void down the middle in Boston is now gaping, with Pavel Zacha given the tall task of filling Bergeron's spot in the depth chart right now. Leadership hasn't been an issue in Boston for a long time thanks to the run started by Zdeno Chara and continued on by Bergeron, and it shouldn't be an issue with the continued presence of Brad Marchand and Charlie McAvoy, among others. Nevertheless, you can't replace a guy with the moral fortitude of Bergeron – just look at how he handled the Mitchell Miller affair.

Still, it will be interesting to see how Boston bounces back from last season's first-round playoff heartbreak without Bergeron. The Bruins are still a great squad, but they landed just outside the seven teams we seriously considered picking to win the Stanley Cup. In the end, as you will see on pg. 40, we went with the Carolina Hurricanes coming out of the Eastern Conference bracket to defeat the Dallas Stars.

Though his Bruins couldn't provide Bergeron with a magical ending, he retires in the highest regard. He battled a ton of adversity in his career due to early injuries, but he was still a champion at every level (he's a member of the vaunted Triple Gold Club). As for time and space? Time is undefeated, but there's a space in the Hockey Hall of Fame waiting for Bergeron as soon as he's eligible in 2026.

Ryan Kennedy
Editor in chief
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PUBLISHER'S NOTE

POLITICALLY CORRECT

THE ONLY TWO WORDS that can cause hockey people to drop their gloves faster than "Let's Go" is when one is called out for being "politically correct." Some believe that being politically correct is a sign of weakness and a negative trait in a person. Others believe that being politically correct is the appropriate first step towards an individual's intellectual growth, a sign of strength that brings awareness of others into one's consideration, which in turn fosters a better society for all. But let's face it, the majority of the time when used, it is not meant as a compliment.

The game of hockey, from its inception, has been filled with fights both on and off the ice. This fact really hit home (excuse the pun) as I looked through The Hockey News' archive, which dates back to 1947 and will be available to all subscribers as part of their subscription shortly (THN.com/archive).

Some on-ice fights have been well-documented in the archive by some of the greatest sports writers born in the past century. Stories of beaten-to-the-pulp players are well-scripted, but it is the photographs that are really quite shocking at first glance, like from our issue from Volume 5, Number 29.

Just like pretty much anything though, the more you see something, the more normalized it becomes, and that can be good or bad. If discriminating against a particular set of people in society becomes normalized, I would say that this is bad. If seeing a person from a particular set of people in society in a position that someone from their group had never occupied before, that normalization is a good thing.

The Hockey News' first issue, from October 1947, has a caricature of an Indigenous person that is simply wrong. As it is today, then it was insulting to an entire community of people who inhabited the lands before the establishment of Canada and the United States took place. Consideration of the negative impact that these types of depictions would cause on the Native Americans and Indigenous Peoples of Canada wasn't front of mind. Over the decades, society has evolved to a better place of respect for everyone. However, there are still improvements to be made in society.

When political correctness enters into any conversation about sports, there are always two basic sides that form up. One is the argument that politics of any type should not enter into sports, as sports are our way of getting away from the challenges of life, even if it is only for a few hours. The other side of the basic argument is that sports are an integral part of society, and in order to make society better for all, sports must evolve in a way to encourage all of us to be more inclusive. In a perfect world, sports would be separated from politics, but we do not live in a perfect world, and no matter what anyone tells you, politics and sports have always been intertwined. Just look at the 1936, 1980, 1984 Olympics – well, just look at all the Olympic Games.

With the explosion of the internet and social media in the past two decades, discussions of political correctness have touched on what seems like every aspect of our life. Every day, we are bombarded with the two sides of the arguments, and we feel pressured to pick a side as quickly as possible. With all of this pressure to pick a side, some bullies decide to throw labels around as weapons. It always reminds me of the grade-school bully who, when losing a fact-based debate of sorts, goes to the name-calling strategy since they have nothing else to go to. That strategy is infantile no matter the age of the bully deploying it.

I personally have been on the receiving end of some bullies whose intention it is to insult me by calling me a negative term in their mind, like capitalist, conservative, republican, rich guy or, the real zinger, white male over 60. This usually occurs whenever the cover of The Hockey News features the NHL commissioner, an owner or an executive of an NHL team.

Conversely, some attempt to insult me by calling me woke (I had to look that one up), liberal, democrat, non-hockey purest or, the best one ever, a women's hockey lover whenever a woman or person of color graces the cover. The Money & Power 2023 issue had a Black NHL executive, an owner and a team executive on the cover, all three being women. I heard from bullies on both sides of the political-correctness spectrum. Like they say, when you are being attacked by both sides, you are doing something right.

Clearly to some, I am acting in a way that is politically correct when I put anyone other than a white NHL player on the cover. Outside of that, no matter who I seem to put on the cover or feature in the magazine, someone is calling me some name that they believe is an insult. I actually have friends who identify themselves with words that include one or more of capitalist, conservative, republican, rich, white, over 60, woke, liberal, democrat, non-hockey purist and women's hockey lover. They are all great people, and I respect each and every one of them and their opinions, so by calling me any of these names, I see them all as compliments and not as insults at all.

Truth is, as the owner and publisher of The Hockey News, I am not trying to be politically correct. It is just that I absolutely love the game of hockey, and I think everyone should play the game or be a part of the game because it taught me so much about life starting from when I was a kid right through today, and it has brought me so much joy and happiness.

As we begin our 77th season, everyone at The Hockey News will continue our tradition of informing our readers on everything hockey as we look forward to our 100th anniversary in 2047. The Hockey News will continue to support, promote and celebrate all those who are involved in the game of hockey without regards to their ancestry, origin, standing, religion, place, politics or orientation. Everyone at The Hockey News loves the game of hockey and we embrace all those who love the game just as much as we do. We wholeheartedly believe that hockey is for everyone, whether or not it is considered politically correct. H

W. Graeme Roustan
Executive Chairman & Publisher, Roustan Media Ltd.
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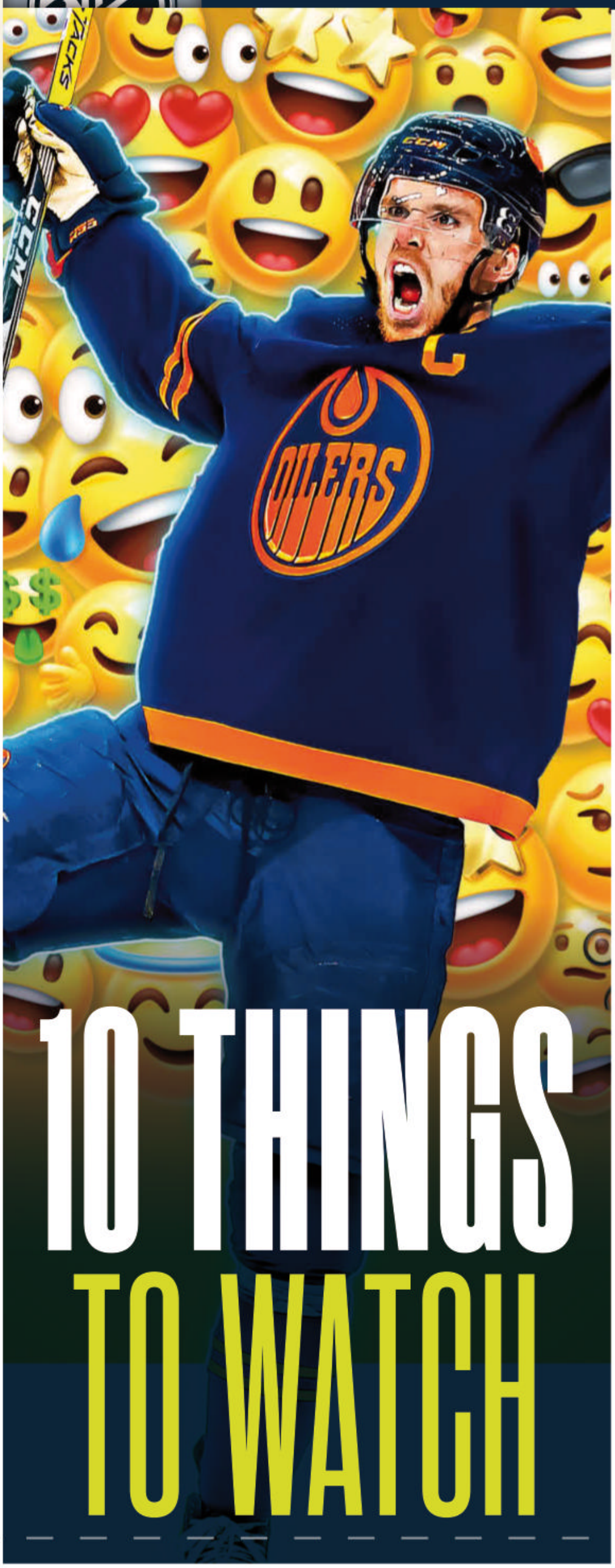


RISE AND SHINE

With the new season comes many new beginnings, with fresh faces on and (contrary to popular belief) off the ice. A remarkable rookie class promises to make the Calder competition an all-time race, while several sublimely skilled vets look to equal all-time greats. A unified women's hockey league brings all of the world's top talent under the same banner, while a couple of Eastern Conference powerhouses look to hang some banners of their own. And, yes, at long last, the flat-cap era (hopefully) will come to an end BY **KEN CAMPBELL**

JUST THINK, THERE'S ONLY one more season more worth of sleeps until the salary cap finally spikes again. Or at least that's the expectation. If all goes according to plan, the 2023-24 season will be the last one in which the NHL essentially has a flat cap. With league revenues soaring, the players are close to paying back their debt from the truncated pandemic seasons, fuelling speculation the ceiling will go up as much as $12 million in the next three seasons. In fact, when hockey related revenues from the past couple of seasons are totalled up, the balance might actually be paid in full before the Vegas Golden Knights kick off the season by raising their Stanley Cup banner at their Oct. 10 home-opener.

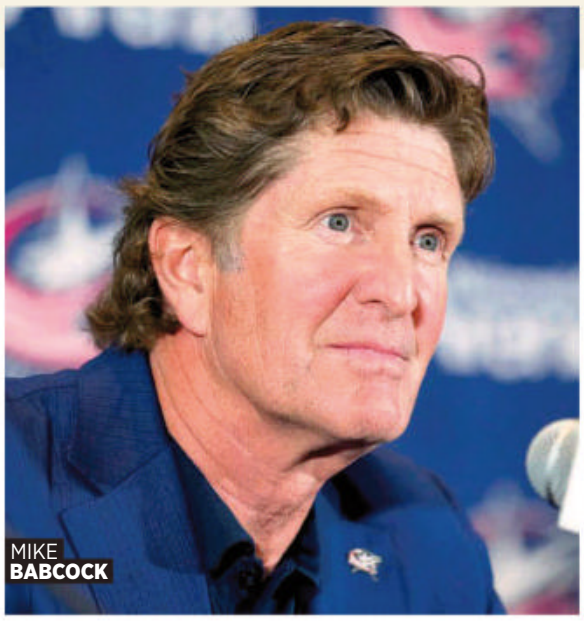
Speaking of the Golden Knights, they're still going to be really good. Again. They might even repeat, but, hoo boy, they'll have to navigate a minefield of competition (see pg. 40). Much of how Vegas does will depend on the health of captain Mark Stone (two back surgeries in nine months). So, we'll be watching for that, along with 10 other things:

1. MCDAVID WATCH

Now that Connor McDavid has decided he also wants to be the best goal-scorer on the planet, he has taken his game from simply spectacular to otherworldly. With his 153 points last season, McDavid inserted himself into the greatest of all-time discussion, and there's nothing to suggest he won't continue that trend in 2023-24.

So, let's say that, at 26, McDavid is still very much in his prime and capable of being as productive as he was last year. Let's say he scores 150 points and wins the Art Ross Trophy this season. That would indeed secure him into some rarefied company.

First, he'd become only the fifth player in history to win four straight scoring championships, after Gordie Howe, Phil Esposito, Wayne Gretzky and Jaromir Jagr. He'd become only the second player, after Gretzky, to win six in eight seasons. And if he hits 150 points, he will have exactly 1,000 in his career. Being that he'd hit that plateau by his 651st game (at the latest), he would be the third-quickest to hit that mark, after Gretzky and Mario Lemieux.


MIKE **BABCOCK**

2. NEW FACES, NEW PLACES

There is an enduring notion that NHL benches are nothing more than very expensive recycling bins where the same guys keep getting the same jobs. The only problem is it's not true. What if we told you that more than half the coaches currently heading up NHL benches were on their first big-league head-coaching jobs? That number includes Andrew Brunette, who qualifies as a first-year coach with the Nashville Predators because he was only an interim coach in Florida. Four of the six coaches in new digs this season – Brunette in Nashville, Greg Cronin in Anaheim, Ryan Huska in Calgary and Spencer Carbery in Washington – embark on their first NHL jobs.

Only two teams went the recycled route. But they did it in a big way. Mike Babcock begins his redemption journey in Columbus, while Peter Laviolette, who did not move the needle one iota in his three seasons in Washington, takes over the New York Rangers.

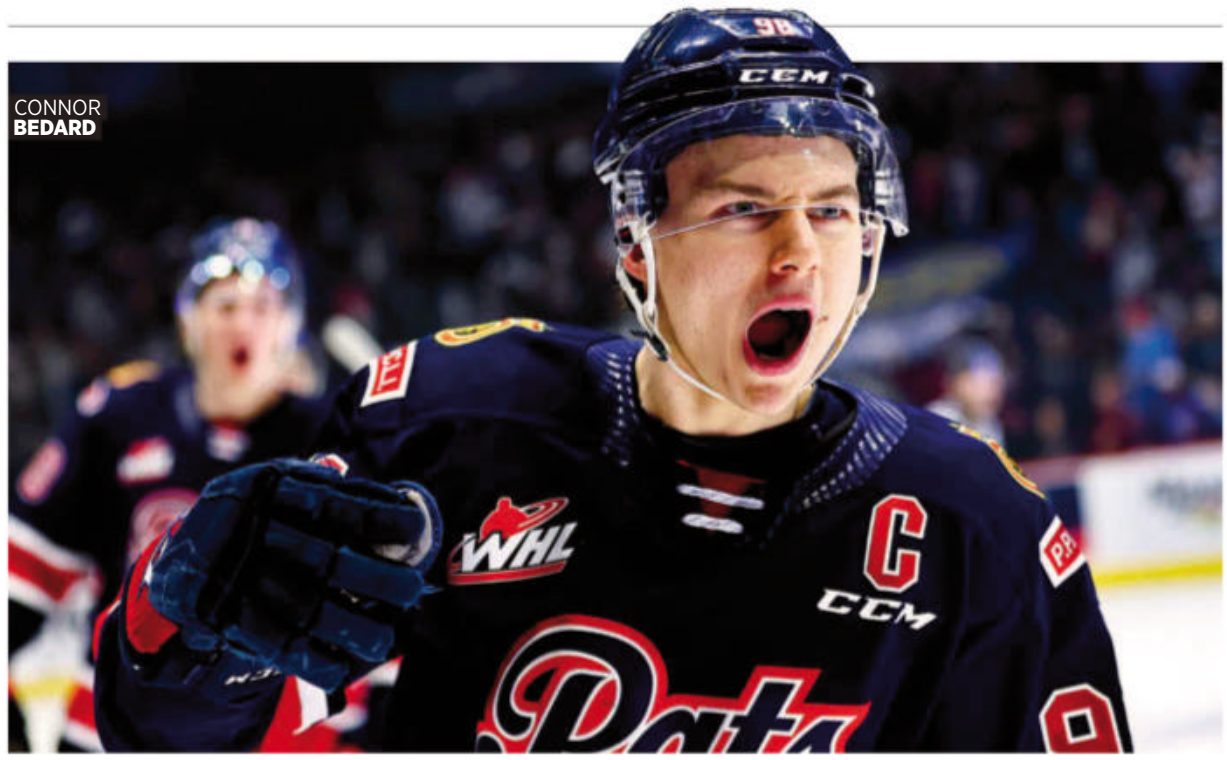
4. (ONE) LEAGUE OF THEIR OWN

Most of the hockey world thought that if women's hockey were ever to have a viable pro league, it'd be run by the NHL. That's why the summer news that the Professional Women's Hockey Players Association had absorbed the Premier Hockey Federation without the NHL's involvement came as such a surprise.

Details were still sketchy in the summer, but the league is expected to have six teams, three based in Canada and three in the U.S. The league is supported by Los Angeles Dodgers owner Mark Walter and his wife, Kimbra. Tennis legend Billie Jean King, sports executive Ilana Kloss, Dodgers president Stan Kasten and Dodgers senior VP of business strategy Royce Cohen serve as board members.

One unfortunate effect of the merger is that several PHF players will be out of a job, but getting the best players under one umbrella was the only way to push the game forward.

MARIE-PHILIP **POULIN**


CONNOR **BEDARD**

3. MAKE WAY FOR NEW GENERAL MANAGERS

You might be surprised to learn that 25 of the 32 GMs in the NHL are also on their first go-round as franchise architects. That figure includes 2023-24 newcomers Craig Conroy (Calgary), Barry Trotz (Nashville) and Daniel Briere (Philadelphia). Among incoming GMs this season, the newbies outnumber the old hats by a count of three to two. Only the Toronto Maple Leafs (former Calgary GM Brad Treliving) and the Pittsburgh Penguins (former Toronto GM Kyle Dubas) went with veterans.

BRENDAN SHANAHAN & **BRAD TRELIVING**

5. BLACKHAWK UP

The time has finally arrived. The greatest Connor since 2015 will take the NHL by storm when Connor Bedard makes his NHL debut for the Chicago Blackhawks in Pittsburgh on Day 1 of the 2023-24 season. Bedard vs. Sidney Crosby to kick off an NHL season. Yes, please. The first-overall pick in the 2023 draft enters the season as the odds-on favorite to begin what most think will be a massive NHL trophy collection by winning the Calder this season, but that's hardly a guarantee. After all, neither Crosby nor McDavid took home the award in their rookie seasons.

Luke Hughes will have something to say about it in New Jersey. As will Logan Cooley in Arizona, Adam Fantilli in Columbus, Brandt Clarke in Los Angeles, Pavel Mintyukov in Anaheim…plus there's always a surprise candidate or three. Perhaps Shane Wright will stick with the Kraken and keep the trophy in Seattle for a second consecutive year. (Or Ryker Evans, who was a beast on the blueline for AHL Coachella Valley last season. Or Tye Kartye, the 22-year-old undrafted free agent who played 10 playoff games for the Kraken.)

BABCOCK: KYLE ROBERTSON-USA TODAY NETWORK; SHANAHAN/TRELIVING: DAN HAMILTON-USA TODAY SPORTS; POULIN: HEATHER POLLOCK/PWHPA; BEDARD: KEITH HERSHMILLER PHOTOGRAPHY/REGINA PATS

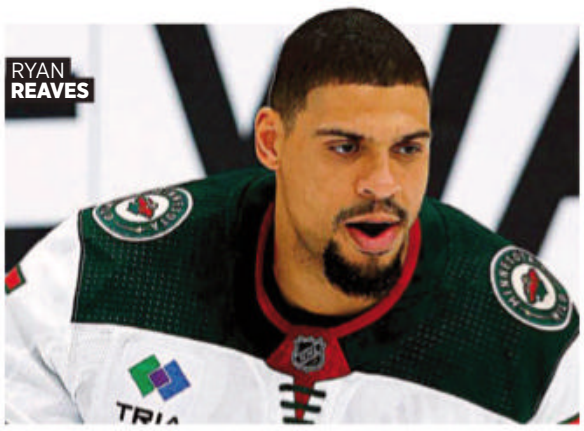
6. CELEBRINI TIME, COME ON!

Speaking of phenoms, it's not too early to start thinking about who will go No. 1 in the 2024 NHL draft. All right, perhaps it is, but we're going to anyway. The early favorite is Mack Celebrini, who will play the entire season as a 17-year-old freshman at Boston University. Challenging him for the top spot will be Cole Eiserman, who scored a ridiculous 26 goals in 20 games as a 16-year-old with USA Hockey's National Team Development Program on its U-18 team last season.

MACK CELEBRINI

9. ARE THE DEVILS DUE?

After trading for Tyler Toffoli and signing Timo Meier and Jesper Bratt to long-term extensions, New Jersey Devils GM Tom Fitzgerald declared, "Our (Stanley Cup) window just opened up." After a season in which they made a gargantuan leap and battled back from an 0-2 deficit to win a playoff round against the New York Rangers, the Devils are primed to make a long playoff run. Whether that ends in a Stanley Cup in 2024 (or ever, for that matter) remains to be seen. But the Devils have a championship-caliber roster in place.


RYAN REAVES

7. SNOT YOUR FATHER'S MAPLE LEAFS

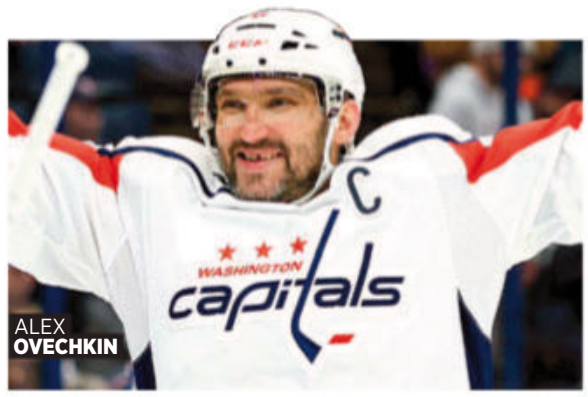
The Toronto Maple Leafs will try again to get it right this season. Nothing new there. But they'll do it with a new GM and a roster that has been given a massive injection of sandpaper. Treliving, the Leafs' freshly minted GM, observed the Leafs needed "more snot" in their lineup, and he filled that need by acquiring three massive boogers. On Day 1 of free agency, Treliving signed Ryan Reaves to a three-year deal that, if he plays it out, will take the veteran enforcer past his 39th birthday. He followed that up by signing Tyler Bertuzzi and Max Domi to one-year deals, giving the Leafs two players who will enter the fray without hesitation and likely drag a few of their teammates in with them.

If it doesn't work out and the Leafs don't experience any playoff success, they'll just do what they've done for the past 57 years – throw out the blueprint and try something else.

8. OVI'S CHASE CONTINUES

Last season, for the first time since 2006, neither Crosby nor Alex Ovechkin appeared in the Stanley Cup playoffs. And we all might have just to get used to that. With the Capitals seemingly abandoning any possibility of winning another Cup during the Ovechkin era, all that is left for 'Ovi' to do is to continue chasing Wayne Gretzky's goal-scoring record. Ovechkin enters the season 72 tallies behind Gretzky's standard of 894, and considering Ovechkin has scored at least 40 goals in eight of the past 10 seasons, there's little reason to believe he won't at least cut that deficit in half in 2023-24.

Another legend chasing history is Minnesota Wild goalie and all-around good guy Marc-Andre Fleury, who is seven wins away from tying Patrick Roy's career mark of 551 wins – good for the No. 2 spot on the league's all-time wins list. Fleury is also 15 games away from becoming the fourth goalie in NHL history to play 1,000 games. And if he appears in 45 games this season, he'll pass Roy for third on the all-time list.


ALEX OVECHKIN

TRAVIS KONECNY

10. FLYING LOW

At the other end of the spectrum are the Devils' neighbors to the south along I-95, the Philadelphia Flyers. Ownership brought in former Flyer Daniel Briere to tear this thing down, hoping he can build it back up again. He got high marks for his first draft and for maximizing the return on defenseman Ivan Provorov. And judging by the prominent names in the rumor mill in the off-season, he's far from completing his remodelling job.

CELEBRINI: CHICAGO STEEL; REAVES: PERRY NELSON; OVECHKIN: AARON DOSTER; DEVILS: TOM HORAK-USA TODAY SPORTS; KONECNY: BOB FRID-USA TODAY SPORTS

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ROOKIE REPORT

Sure, all eyes will be on Bedard, but there are plenty of other youngsters who'll be trying to impress Calder Trophy voters in Year 1 of their NHL careers BY **RYAN KENNEDY**

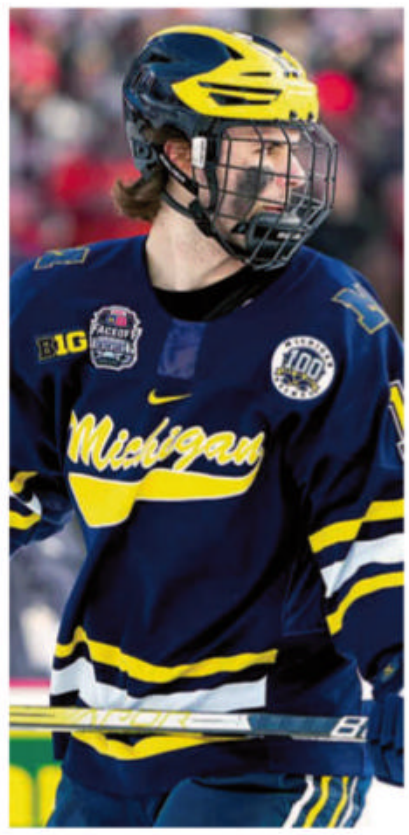
TRUE, THE CALDER Trophy race tends to be dominated by slightly older rookies, but this time around, we know the newest No. 1 overall draft pick will be in the mix. That's because Connor Bedard was that selection for Chicago, and the Blackhawks spent the days after the draft buttressing their forward corps to make sure the kid isn't playing all by himself out there. Similarly, Columbus will have a nice group of weapons for Adam Fantilli – who went third behind Bedard and Anaheim's Leo Carlsson – to play with on the Blue Jackets, so it'll be fun to see what he can do as a rookie.

With a flat salary cap and an ultra-competitive league right now, NHL franchises have to be smart with their prospects, balancing the need for development with the upside of talent at an affordable cap hit. Sometimes, it doesn't go according to plan, whether it's injuries (Juraj Slafkovsky, the No. 1 overall pick in 2022 by Montreal) or simply a player who misses for whatever reason (Detroit waiving Filip Zadina in the early days of free agency).

But when they hit, you reap the rewards quickly. Seattle didn't have to wait long for Matty Beniers to click with the Kraken, and now he has a Calder Trophy. Who will be the next to join him? Let's take a look at 2023-24's notable upstarts.

CONNOR BEDARD C, CHI

THE CORONATION HAPPENED AT the NHL draft in Nashville, where Blackhawks fans turned out in droves to see their new boy-king. Bedard instantly becomes Chicago's best center, despite being a teen, because his elite release, lower-body strength and compete level are all so high. He can score and create, so as long as the Hawks put some talent on his line, the results will be there. Bringing in the likes of Taylor Hall, Nick Foligno and Corey Perry over the summer ensures Bedard will have mentors who have seen it all – and Foligno and Perry can drop the gloves if anyone messes with No. 98.



ADAM FANTILLI C, CLB

WITH ANAHEIM TAKING LEO Carlsson, the Blue Jackets got a pleasant surprise at the draft, enabling them to snag Fantilli third overall (they were also interested in Will Smith). The 2023 Hobey Baker Award winner as the top player in U.S. college hockey, Fantilli is blessed with an excellent combination of size, speed, skill and competitiveness. He led the NCAA in scoring – no small feat for a freshman – and played for Canada's World Championship team in the spring, where he scored a crucial goal against Latvia in the playoffs en route to a gold medal. He also won WJC gold earlier in the year.

BEDARD: KEITH HERSHMILLER/REGINA PATS; FANTILLI: ADAM CAIRNS-THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH

PAVEL MINTYUKOV D, ANA

THE OHL'S DEFENSEMAN OF the year, Mintyukov came up with the Saginaw Spirit and then ended his junior career with the contending Ottawa 67's after a massive deadline deal. He can really put up points from the back end, and his anticipation and hockey IQ allow him to succeed on the defensive side as well. The Ducks are going to have great competition on their blueline thanks to the return of Jamie Drysdale and newbies Mintyukov and Olen Zellweger. Bringing in Radko Gudas via free agency will help the kids.

JIRI KULICH C, BUF

FEW TRAINING CAMPS WILL boast the sheer number of young talents that Buffalo will have, even though Jack Quinn has already been lost to injury during a training session. Matt Savoie is obviously a big name to watch thanks to his junior heroics in the WHL, but Kulich might have the pole position. The Czech teen was excellent at the world juniors, earning all-star honors and a silver medal in Halifax. But he was also a monster for AHL Rochester during the playoffs, and that momentum is huge. Kulich is a deadly goal-scorer thanks to his wicked skill and speed.

LUKE HUGHES D, NJ

YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE getting in Hughes, and it all starts with his gorgeous skating. But the confidence he showed during his brief stint with New Jersey last season foreshadows big things all around. Hughes had four points in five games (regular season and playoffs combined) with the Devils after his season with NCAA Michigan came to an end, and with a whole summer of training, it will be fun to see what the biggest Hughes brother can do on a team with older sibling Jack.

BRENNAN OTHMANN LW, NYR

THE TEMPERATURE IS HEATING up in New York when it comes to the 'Kid Line' of Alexis Lafreniere, Filip Chytil and Kaapo Kakko, but there's more youth on the way. A pain to play against, Othmann can torpedo-launch himself around the ice as a shift disturber, but he also scored 50 goals in the OHL with Flint. Othmann's big advantage is the fact he can be effective on any line: if you need a top-six wingman, he's there, but he can also crash and bang in the bottom six.

MATTHEW KNIES LW, TOR

IF THE PLAYOFFS WERE any indication, Knies knows how to stick in Toronto's lineup. Playing a smart game and using his big frame to his advantage, Knies was surprisingly reliable for a kid who was literally playing college hockey the week before. The off-season additions of Tyler Bertuzzi and Max Domi mean that Knies will have to battle for ice time, but a little competition is good, and the young left winger has the chance to be an effective two-way NHLer sooner rather than later. The points could come early, too, depending on which line Knies plays on. He can hang with scorers.

LOGAN COOLEY C, ARI

WE ALL THOUGHT COOLEY was returning to the University of Minnesota for another year, but he had a change of heart during the summer, and now he's Arizona's best option down the middle. Cooley drives play and is a constant threat to create scoring chances thanks to his speed, playmaking ability and hockey mind. A finalist for the NCAA's Hobey Baker Award as a freshman, he took Minnesota to the title game and was also one of the top scorers at the world juniors as a member of Team USA. Cooley shares an agent with Coyotes star Clayton Keller, so he's not coming in without friends.

BRANDT CLARKE D, LA

WHILE DREW DOUGHTY IS still the main man on the Kings' blueline and still has plenty left in the tank, Los Angeles has another swashbuckling defenseman on the way with Clarke, who has already played nine NHL games and had a cup of coffee in the AHL with L.A.'s affiliate, the Ontario Reign. An offensive blueliner who helped Canada win World Junior Championship gold in Halifax, Clarke's biggest asset is his hockey IQ. He also has a good frame to build on and is ready for the next step: back in junior, he put up nearly two points a game for Barrie (regular season and playoffs).

SHANE WRIGHT C, SEA

WITH HIS SOLID TWO-WAY game, Wright can fit up and down a lineup, and with Seattle being stronger than outsiders expected last season, the Kraken decided to slow-play his development. Wright saw time in the AHL with Coachella Valley, then captained Canada to WJC gold before returning to junior, where a blockbuster trade sent him to Windsor. The Spitfires flamed out in the playoffs, but that allowed Wright to rejoin Coachella Valley and help the Firebirds go all the way to the AHL final, where he was a key contributor. Now, he'll push for full-time duty with the Kraken again.

MINTYUKOV: TERRY WILSON / OHL IMAGES; KULICH: MICHELINE VELUVOLU/ ROCHESTER AMERICANS; HUGHES: JUNFU HAN/USATNSYNDICATION; OTHMANN: DAVID PICKERING/OHL IMAGES
KNIES: BRIAN FLUHARTY-USA TODAY SPORTS; COOLEY: NATHAN RAY SEEBECK-USA TODAY SPORTS; CLARKE: TERRY WILSON/OHL IMAGES; WRIGHT: TERRY WILSON / OHL IMAGES

The Hockey News

TOP 50 PLAYERS IN THE NHL

WAS THERE EVER ANY DOUBT? AFTER POSTING TOTALS WE HAVEN'T SEEN IN NEARLY 30 YEARS, **CONNOR MCDAVID** IS CLEARLY THE GAME'S BEST AND LEADS OUR TOP 50 LIST. HIS MANTLE IS FULL OF AWARDS, BUT THERE'S AN EMPTY SPOT AWAITING THE TROPHY HE DESIRES MOST: THE STANLEY CUP

BY **RYAN KENNEDY**

1 CONNOR MCDAVID

C | Edmonton Oilers

FOR MOST outsiders, Connor McDavid had an incredibly successful season. His 153 points made him the obvious Hart Trophy winner, as no NHLer had put up that many points since Mario Lemieux in 1995-96 – the year before McDavid was born. He also took home the Ted Lindsay Award (MVP as voted on by his fellow NHLers), not to mention the obvious Art Ross and Rocket Richard Trophies.

On the other hand, his Edmonton Oilers failed in their quest to win the Stanley Cup. In fact, they only got to the second round after making it to the conference final the year prior. If you think that sits well with McDavid, then you don't know the Oilers captain well – especially since those same Vegas Golden Knights who beat him went on to become champions. "It's obviously super disappointing; I don't know any other way of saying it than that," he said. "To see Vegas win was hard. I feel like we were right there. We knew it was a tough series and that we gave them the best fight. It was 2-2 in their building, we were in full control halfway through, then the game went awry for a few minutes and we couldn't recover."

Speaking before the NHL awards in Nashville – and just a few weeks removed from Vegas' triumph over the Florida Panthers – McDavid revealed he had already conducted an autopsy of Edmonton's downfall. "For sure, you learn lessons," he said. "I've gone back and watched some of the games. It's the little things, which is a good thing, but you have to learn from all of that and work to get yourself back to the same spot."

Once again, McDavid is the No. 1 player on our Top 50 list, and his dizzying speed and beguiling skills are only two reasons why. His drive and determination to be the best and to will his team to a title is clear, and with Edmonton set to return a strong roster, the Oilers will once again be in the mix in 2023-24. Not only is Leon Draisaitl a superstar in his own right, but Ryan Nugent-Hopkins is coming off his first 100-point season and Mattias Ekholm was the perfect trade-deadline pickup by GM Ken Holland, buttressing the blueline. Goaltending is still a wild card, but Calder Trophy finalist Stuart Skinner showed stretches of greatness that could portend an answer.

While Ekholm and Skinner are new, the Oilers' core that counts McDavid as its molten center has been around for a while. The fact Edmonton can run back most of its roster is alluring to its captain. "It's my eighth year with those guys, and we've grown up together in a lot of ways," he said. "To see it all the way through would be really special."

But make no mistake: McDavid is the captain for a reason. "I'm honored to be his teammate and honored to be his friend," Skinner said. "It's very impressive to see what he does. It's not surprising, the way he works every summer and every year during the season. He does all the little things right and deserves all the success. It's fun to watch – and I do get him most of the time in practice."

Whether or not Skinner was joking about that last part, it's fair to say he'd be in the minority if it were true. McDavid has pretty much become unstoppable with the puck on his stick, and that will continue for years to come. He's 26 right now, and while analytics will tell you an NHLer's best years are behind him by then (yes, it's a young man's game – don't complain to the 40-year-old messenger here), those analytics also leave a carve-out for superstars. Sidney Crosby, who just completed his 18th straight point-per-game season, is one such living example. Erik Karlsson, who just won the Norris at 33 after tallying 101 points from the San Jose blueline, is another. So don't expect McDavid to slow down anytime soon.

Having said that, the Edmonton phenomenon is laser-focused on team – not personal – success. He waxed poetic about how the Hart was so exciting when he first came into the league (he won his first of three MVP nods at 20), because everything was new and exciting then, but now it's clear he has a one-track mind. McDavid is at that point in his career where he studies what champions do in order to become one, much in the same way Wayne Gretzky's firewagon Oilers had to fall to the more experienced New York Islanders before besting that same squad for Edmonton's first Cup in 1984. "As you're going through the process, you understand why you have to go through the process," McDavid said. "Understanding the path we've been on, you see why it goes that way. There are things that happen during the course of a game that winning teams know how to deal with and manage. I said it earlier in the year, winning is a skill. Teams that figure that out quickest and do it the longest end up winning."

So now we wait and see what McDavid has up his sleeve next. He has put the Oilers in great positions to succeed, while also making sure to keep the 'I' out of 'team' when they have failed. "Everybody can always do more," he said. "We didn't win, so, obviously, we weren't good enough."

McDavid's trophy case is full of individual awards, and there's every reason to believe he'll take home more hardware at the end of this campaign. But if he's going to be satiated, that haul has to include a Stanley Cup. And if it includes a Cup, it would probably also come with a Conn Smythe Trophy as the playoff MVP. For a player who has dominated in the post-season and even led the league in scoring for stretches after his team was eliminated, there is nothing for McDavid to prove to the world. He is the best, and he just needs his team to win that title to put the cherry on top.

2 CALE MAKAR
D | Colorado Avalanche

Injuries hampered Makar's 2022-23 campaign and restricted the Avs superstar to 60 games, but he still finished in the top 10 in scoring by a defenseman and garnered Norris Trophy consideration. That's where we are with Makar, who has shown himself to be a terror on the offensive side of the puck and an astute defender in his own end thanks to his smarts and stickwork. The Avs got bounced out of the playoffs early one year after winning the Stanley Cup, but with a healthy Makar, expect them to go on a revenge tour. And at just 24, Makar has another decade-plus to put his name on the Norris Trophy and Stanley Cup.

3 LEON DRAISAITL
C | Edmonton Oilers

In any other season, 52 goals and 128 points would almost assuredly win you the Hart Trophy, but Draisaitl just happened to do it in a Connor McDavid world. Luckily, the two are friends and teammates, and McDavid always makes sure to remind folks just how incredibly talented his buddy is. Draisaitl's combination of power and skill is truly a sight to behold – especially if you're unlucky enough to be killing a penalty when he's on the ice. He's already the best German player in hockey history, and he has set a template for up-and-comers such as Tim Stutzle, Moritz Seider and JJ Peterka.

4 NATHAN MACKINNON
C | Colorado Avalanche

No way is MacKinnon happy with how Colorado finished the season, and it's guaranteed he comes out of the gates fired up. The Avalanche superstar is coming off career bests of 42 goals and 111 points, and he did so in just 71 games. With all the motivation in the world, expect 'Nate Dogg' to go off again. His combination of high-level speed, power and skill is a rarity, and the constant hunger to compete is well-known. The Avs may be missing Gabriel Landeskog again, but they're still a top outfit with Stanley Cup aspirations. MacKinnon will once again be the driving force in Colorado.

5 AUSTON MATTHEWS
C | Toronto Maple Leafs

Now that Connor Bedard is in the league, we can at least have a debate about who has the best release in hockey – but Matthews is the king until further notice. Matthews didn't put up the same numbers he did during his 2021-22 Hart Trophy campaign, but he was really strong defensively for the Maple Leafs, while also battling a knee injury. Toronto finally broke through to the second round of the playoffs, and Matthews was integral to their first-round victory over rival Tampa Bay. Now the mission is to go even further – preferably all the way, if you're a Leafs fan.

6 DAVID PASTRNAK
RW | Boston Bruins

Playing on the best regular-season team in the league, Pastrnak finished second in Hart Trophy voting and continued to make his mark in Boston, where the Bruins will be fascinating to watch in the coming years. What will the team look like without captain Patrice Bergeron this season? Pastrnak is already the biggest offensive threat on the Bruins, and his defense is pretty solid, too. The Czech national dominated at 5-on-5 play, and his 61 goals were second only to McDavid's 64 for the Rocket Richard crown. Pastrnak also finished tied for third in NHL scoring with a career-best 113 points.

7 MATTHEW TKACHUK
LW | Florida Panthers

He made a huge playoff statement, guiding Florida to the Stanley Cup final before a nasty broken sternum sidelined him. Tkachuk's combination of strength, smarts and swagger make him a fun one to watch.

8 ADAM FOX
D | New York Rangers

There's no mistaking the impact Fox has made in the NHL during his career to date. The smarts and puck skills are so good, and he already has a Norris Trophy – with more to come if he can outduel Makar.

MAKAR: BOB FRID-USA TODAY SPORTS

9 JACK HUGHES
C | New Jersey Devils

Last year was the breakout, this season will be the time to see how much higher Hughes can elevate his team. Coming off a 99-point campaign, the Devils star can help New Jersey aim for a longer playoff run.

10 ANDREI VASILEVSKIY
G | Tampa Bay Lightning

When it comes to money goalies, it's tough to beat Vasilevskiy. Sure, the Bolts lost in the first round, but you have to give them a break after three straight runs to the Stanley Cup final (with two titles).

11 JASON ROBERTSON
LW | Dallas Stars

One of the best goal-scorers in the NHL, Robertson was streaky in the playoffs, but he's still only 24 years old. Look for him to shoot for 50 goals this season – he's already flirted with the mark twice.

12 SIDNEY CROSBY
C | Pittsburgh Penguins

When you're one season away from tying a Wayne Gretzky record, you're doing something right. If Crosby delivers his 19th point-per-game season in 2023-24, he'll even up with 'The Great One.'

13 ROOPE HINTZ
C | Dallas Stars

His blend of speed, skill and power is pretty much what you're looking for in a forward, and Hintz has already established himself as a key member of the Stars. Can he help Dallas win the Cup?

14 MARK STONE
RW | Vegas Golden Knights

One of the smartest two-way players in the game, the captain of the Knights leads with passion and now has a championship ring to his name. Some of the best highlights in the Cup final belonged to Stone.

15 JACK EICHEL
C | Vegas Golden Knights

Eichel went from never playing in the post-season to never losing a series in it. That's hockey. With his strength, skill and skating, Eichel was a handful for opponents en route to a Cup victory.

16 MIRO HEISKANEN
D | Dallas Stars

Heiskanen is still criminally underrated outside of his own market, but make no mistake, he's massive for the Stars. With effortless mobility and smarts, Heiskanen can log big, effective minutes.

17 VICTOR HEDMAN
D | Tampa Bay Lightning

What would the playoffs have looked like with a healthy Hedman? The Norris and Conn Smythe winner still has his towering size, skating and strong two-way game to pace the Lightning blueline for years.

18 MITCH MARNER
RW | Toronto Maple Leafs

Missed out on his first 100-point season by one, so you know he'll be motivated to hit the century mark this time. The elite playmaker has also proven himself to be deadly on the penalty kill.

19 MIKKO RANTANEN
RW | Colorado Avalanche

Probably a little underrated on a team headlined by Makar and MacKinnon, but how many big wingers are there with Rantanen's skill set? The Finnish star is coming off a 55-goal, 105-point campaign.

20 CHARLIE MCAVOY
D | Boston Bruins

Mobile, talented and hard-hitting, McAvoy still doesn't get enough love outside of the Bruins' kingdom. Nonetheless, he's one of the top all-around blueliners in the game right now.

21 LINUS ULLMARK
G | Boston Bruins

An injury spoiled his post-season, but Ullmark won the Vezina Trophy for a reason: he was a monster in the regular season. His goals saved above expected (42.4) was second only to Nashville's Juuse Saros.

22 NIKITA KUCHEROV
RW | Tampa Bay Lightning

All he does is produce. Kucherov broke triple digits in points for the third time in his career and crested 80 assists for the second time. His hockey mind is elite, and he can both dish and finish.

23 KIRILL KAPRIZOV
LW | Minnesota Wild

Absolutely dominates the scoresheet for the Wild and led the team in scoring despite playing only 67 games. Not only does he have the sick hands, but Kaprizov knows how to use physical leverage.

KAPRIZOV: DAN HAMILTON-USA TODAY SPORTS

24 ELIAS PETTERSSON
C | Vancouver Canucks

Though the Canucks have been a disaster, 'Petey' got his groove back with a career high in goals (39) and points (102). When the dazzling center is making magic like that, you have to tune in.

25 ERIK KARLSSON
D | Pittsburgh Penguins

Healed and healthy, Karlsson turned in one of the best comeback performances in years en route to his third Norris Trophy. His 101 points were the most by a blueliner since the Rangers' Brian Leetch in 1991-92.

26 ALEX OVECHKIN
LW | Washington Capitals

The Caps may be fading out of their championship window, but their captain still has serious business: catching Gretzky for the all-time goal-scoring record. 'Ovi' continues to pump them in from his office.

27 ALEKSANDER BARKOV
C | Florida Panthers

The numbers weren't always there in the final, but Barkov played some seriously tough and dangerous hockey for the Panthers. The captain remains one of the best two-way centers in the league.

28 TAGE THOMPSON
C | Buffalo Sabres

One of the biggest breakout players last year (literally and figuratively), the 6-foot-6, 220-pound Thompson gave the Sabres the No. 1 center they needed. He flirted with 50 goals and might get there this season.

29 IGOR SHESTERKIN
G | New York Rangers

Even Shesterkin's "off" year was better than most goalies in their prime, so let's not get twisted here. Shesterkin is a franchise netminder who keeps the Rangers in games and has more Vezinas coming.

30 ILYA SOROKIN
G | New York Islanders

Like his buddy Shesterkin, Sorokin is one of the top netminders in the league, and he just signed a big new contract with the Islanders to keep him with the squad throughout his prime.

31 CONNOR HELLEBUYCK
G | Winnipeg Jets

Whether Hellebuyck is still with the Jets when the season ends remains to be seen, but he'll still be one of the best at his position wherever he is. This guy deserves a long playoff run.

BRADY TKACHUK

32 SEBASTIAN AHO
C | Carolina Hurricanes

A two-way master who goes about his business quietly, Aho enters the season armed with a big new contract and Stanley Cup expectations. With Andrei Svechnikov now healthy, don't bet against the Canes.

33 DOUGIE HAMILTON
D | New Jersey Devils

The focal point of a solid Devils defense corps, Hamilton has the size and offensive prowess to be a difference-maker every game. He set career bests with 22 goals and 74 points in New Jersey.

34 JACCOB SLAVIN
D | Carolina Hurricanes

Those in the know will tell you how good Slavin is. He doesn't have to put up big numbers to be effective, even though he can contribute. Instead, Slavin is just one of the best shutdown players in the game.

35 RASMUS DAHLIN
D | Buffalo Sabres

Playing nearly 26 minutes a game would be impressive enough, but Dahlin also racked up nearly a point per game from the Sabres' blueline. At 23, the top pick from 2018 has officially arrived.

36 BRAD MARCHAND
LW | Boston Bruins

His production took a big hit, but when your team sets NHL records for wins and points, that tends not to matter. Marchand is still a leader, an elite pest and a threat in all situations for the Bruins.

37 BRADY TKACHUK
LW | Ottawa Senators

The captain blends skill with ferocity and physicality – what's not to like? As the young Senators continue to develop together, Tkachuk will become even more important. That day is near.

38 NICO HISCHIER
C | New Jersey Devils

The Devils captain is now getting into that rarefied territory where voters will consider him for the Selke Trophy year in and year out. Hischier and Jack Hughes give New Jersey an awesome 1-2 center punch.

TKACHUK: MARC DESROSIERS-USA TODAY SPORTS

JUUSE SAROS

39 ARTEMI PANARIN
LW | New York Rangers

He's coming off a solid 92-point campaign, but allegedly Panarin wasn't happy with his output – he shaved his head after the season to get the good vibes back. Regardless, he's still an offensive dynamo.

40 HAMPUS LINDHOLM
D | Boston Bruins

On a stacked team, Lindholm may not have been the highlight guy, but his defensive metrics were off the charts – like, Norris good. His 53 points were a great bonus, but it's more about the total package.

41 JOSH MORRISSEY
D | Winnipeg Jets

At one point, there was talk of a 'Norrissey,' and while it didn't happen in the end, it's hard not to celebrate the Jets defenseman for taking his game to another level with nearly a point per game.

42 ANZE KOPITAR
C | Los Angeles Kings

He just put up his best offensive totals in years and maintained his status as one of the top two-way pivots in the game. The big captain is presiding over an intriguing Kings squad with youth and vets.

43 TIM STUTZLE
C | Ottawa Senators

Breaking out for 90 points in his third season, Stutzle led the Sens in scoring and officially became a problem for the opposition. With the arrival of Vladimir Tarasenko, Stutzle has another weapon to play with.

44 JAKE OETTINGER
G | Dallas Stars

With the Stars in a solid contention window, Oettinger will continue to play a big role as the No. 1 goalie capable of stealing games when needed. The fact he's only 24 makes it even better.

45 RYAN NUGENT-HOPKINS
C | Edmonton Oilers

A natural center reborn as a winger, 'The Nuge' just put up his first 100-point season in the NHL (104, to be precise), with half of it coming from his duty on Edmonton's vicious and unforgiving power play.

46 QUINN HUGHES
D | Vancouver Canucks

When you think of the modern-day defenseman, Hughes quickly comes to mind. His skating is excellent, as are his puck skills. Vancouver's best blueliner tied for second in NHL 'D' scoring with 76 points.

47 BRAYDEN POINT
C | Tampa Bay Lightning

The poster boy for small centers in the NHL, Point has become an idol for many top prospects over the past few years. His two-way ability and deadly offensive toolbox will do that.

48 JUUSE SAROS
G | Nashville Predators

The backbone of the Preds had the best goals saved above expected in the NHL, stopping nearly 47 more pucks than he should have over the course of the season. Let's get him some more playoff reps.

49 MIKA ZIBANEJAD
C | New York Rangers

Hockey player in the winter, DJ in the summer. Zibanejad cooks in both fields, and the Rangers will always be dangerous with him patrolling the top six thanks to his lethal goal-scoring prowess.

50 ROMAN JOSI
D | Nashville Predators

On a diminished Predators squad, he couldn't replicate his near-Norris campaign from the year prior, but Josi is still the handsome face of the franchise and a difference-maker at both ends of the ice.

SAROS: DAN HAMILTON-USA TODAY SPORTS

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GAMING

SHOOTING STAR

BY **JARED CLINTON**

LIKE A FLASH IN THE DALLAS SKY, **JASON ROBERTSON** IS LIGHTING UP THE NHL AS A SUDDENLY ELITE GOAL-SCORER AND HART TROPHY CANDIDATE. GOOD GUY, TRIES HARD, LOVES THE GAME? YOU GOT IT

WHEN YOU'VE been a part of the whole big-league management racket as long as Jim Nill – and the Dallas Stars architect and reigning GM of the year has spent more than three decades in NHL front offices – you come to learn a thing or two about tempering expectations. You realize success is a rare and fleeting thing, that the past holds no promise for the future and that even the seemingly sure things are anything but. That last one applies particularly, though not exclusively, to the business of the NHL draft.

This is to say that Nill, despite having had a front-row seat to the development of late-round gems such as Pavel Datsyuk and Henrik Zetterberg and a legitimate NHL roster's worth of other non-first-round talent while

JEROME MIRON-USA TODAY SPORTS

with the Detroit Red Wings, knows the hits don't come nearly as often as the misses, especially after the first round of the draft. It's also the long way of saying Nill understood that despite all of Jason Robertson's God-given gifts when the Stars took him 39th overall in 2017, to bank on him becoming a franchise cornerstone would have been a fool's errand.

"He was a big, strong kid with good hockey sense and a scorer, so your wish, your hope, is that he turns into this," Nill said. "But to say that you draft someone in the second round and he's going to turn into that? You never know. There's a lot of obstacles, a lot of hard work, and a lot of things have to go right for it to happen. But he's delivered on all of that."

And delivered in ways few would have imagined. In a shade more than 200 big-league games, Robertson has risen from promising prospect to one of the NHL's most prolific goal-scorers. He's the first Dallas Star to register consecutive 40-goal campaigns. He's gone from all-rookie to all-star and from the fringes of the Hart Trophy conversation in 2021-22, when he received three fifth-place votes, to a fourth-place finisher whose support included six second-place votes last season.

Robertson arrived in the NHL to a Dallas roster featuring Jamie Benn, Tyler Seguin, Roope Hintz, Joe Pavelski and a young but brilliant Miro Heiskanen, yet it's Robertson – who last season set franchise records with 34 multi-point games and an 18-game point streak – who has arguably become the brightest among the Stars.

The scary thing, too, is Nill believes Robertson's star is still rising. In fact, ask Nill and he'll tell you that as impressive as Robertson's on-ice performance has been, the 24-year-old winger has shown an unyielding desire to put in the hard work required to squeeze every last ounce out of his potential.

Pre-game, post-game, on game day and days off, Robertson is striving to improve. In the gym and when studying film, he's working to find ways to be fractionally more effective than he was the game before. "A rink rat," Nill called Robertson, and that quality is evident in the way he excels: whereas other top players dominate with speed or skill, Robertson's greatest quality may well be his guile. And even that isn't so much innate as ingrained. "Growing up as a kid, all we wanted to do is play, play, play. Play as many games as we can," Robertson said. "We would be on one team throughout the year, and then on another team for in-house hockey. It was really important that my dad saw that we got as many reps and practices and games as we can to understand how the game works."

It bears mentioning, of course, that Robertson got a different crash course in understanding the professional game last summer when protracted contract negotiations saw the then-restricted free agent miss not only training camp but Dallas' entire pre-season. Coming off a campaign in which he was, on many nights, the best player on the ice through 100-plus outings spread across the regular season and playoffs, it's easy to forget it took until the dying days of the off-season for Robertson and the Stars to reach a four-year, $31-million pact.

It being his first foray into the kind of big-money negotiation he's sure to have again in a few seasons' time, Robertson said he found the process had its bumps along the way, but Nill, the seasoned veteran he is, finds it easy enough to shrug off the drawn-out nature of last summer's contract talks. It helps, to be sure, that Robertson's deal already seems like a steal even at its $7.75-million cap hit, but Nill also knows this is the nature of the beast when players want to maximize their value. Plus, when push came to shove, Nill was overjoyed to invest in Robertson for two important reasons: the player he's proven himself to be and the person he's blossomed into during his brief time in Dallas.

"He came in as a pretty quiet young man, and now to see him blooming, realizing the skills he has, the presence he has, how he can impact people's lives, that is very fulfilling to watch," Nill said. "I love it when I see a player growing as the years come along, and to see how he's taken the next step not just in hockey but in life in general. That's what Jason has done."

Part of that – a big part of that – has been Robertson embracing the opportunity to give back whenever and wherever possible. His parents, he said, instilled in him from a young age the importance of community, and it's evident he's taken those lessons to heart. He speaks passionately about using his considerable platform to do "little things" such as a holiday toy drive benefitting Children's Medical Center Dallas and JR's Heroes, which allows him to host families of military personnel. His work in the community earned him a second consecutive King Clancy Memorial Trophy nomination for his leadership and humanitarian contributions.

"When I got drafted to Dallas, I couldn't have envisioned it would be where it is right now, to be one of the faces of the franchise," Robertson said. "I'm really glad that I can do that. I've been here for three years now, and I see how the city has grown, how the city is right now, and all I can do is work my hardest for the team and the city and also be a good role model off the ice and be very involved in the community. Dallas is my home and going to be my home for a long time. H

SMILE AND WAVE – AND SCORE

Robertson's rapid rise to NHL stardom includes becoming the first Dallas Star with back-to-back 40-goal seasons.

SERGEI BELSKI-USA TODAY SPORTS

MATTHEW TKACHUK

CHUCKY IN CHARGE

A LOVE-HIM-AND-HATE-HIM TYPE WITH MVP UPSIDE, **MATTHEW TKACHUK** USED HIS LEADERSHIP AND COMPETITIVE EDGE – PLUS CLUTCH SCORING – TO CARRY HIS CATS FROM THE PLAYOFF FRINGE TO THE STANLEY CUP FINAL. FLORIDA FELL SHORT, BUT WHEN YOU'VE GOT THE ULTIMATE WARRIOR ON YOUR SIDE, YOU PICK YOURSELF UP AND GET BACK IN THE FRAY

BY **RYAN KENNEDY**

MATTHEW Tkachuk has an incredible array of unique skills, but perhaps the greatest is his ability to elicit a reaction from every single thing he does on the ice. Whereas there have always been archetypal pests and anti-heroes in the NHL, the guys you hate unless they're playing on your team (Ken Linseman, Brad Marchand, etc.), Tkachuk is something different. When you watch the Florida Panthers left winger, you can simultaneously want to see him score an overtime goal while also cursing that someone should punch him in the face – and somehow it makes sense.

One of the most dramatic moments of the 2023 Stanley Cup final came in the winnowing hours before Game 5, when no one knew if Tkachuk, clearly hobbled, would be available to play for the Panthers against Vegas that night. Ultimately, Tkachuk was held out with what was later revealed to be a broken sternum, and the Cats went meekly into

that desert night, getting dismantled by the Golden Knights 9-3 to give Vegas its first NHL title.

Amidst the revelry and praise for Vegas, there was also astonishment that Tkachuk had managed to somehow play minutes late in Game 4 with what was, essentially, a destroyed body.

But that's what he does. And that's part of the reason why Tkachuk finished third in Hart Trophy voting behind winner Connor McDavid and Boston's David Pastrnak. "He plays a style that not many players play, and he does it at a high level," said former Florida teammate Marc Staal, who signed with Philadelphia in the off-season. "He's active in front of the net, he's very smart, and he enjoys being in the mix. He doesn't shy away from it. He's a lot of fun to play with because he's always competing."

Tkachuk's influence extended far beyond his skill set on the ice, however, and he was a big reason why the Panthers coalesced into a team that went from nearly missing the playoffs to nearly winning it all. "He's probably had the biggest impact of anyone coming onto a new team," said teammate Sam Bennett. "Immediately, he stepped in and played a leadership role, and guys followed him. His energy, his compete, his will to want to win and be successful, guys just followed him right from the start. He's been a massive part of our success."

The marriage between Tkachuk and the Panthers was fascinating to begin with. Florida won the Presidents' Trophy in 2021-22 thanks to a high-octane offense paced by Jonathan Huberdeau, who put up a whopping 85 assists as part of his 115 points overall. Meanwhile, Tkachuk was an integral part of a Calgary Flames squad that seemed to have all the elements necessary for a Stanley Cup run.

Then, the Panthers got swept in the second round of the 2022 playoffs by their cross-state rivals from Tampa, while the Flames were dismantled by their cross-province rivals from Edmonton. Star Johnny Gaudreau decided to leave Calgary via free agency (settling in Columbus), while Tkachuk informed the Flames he would not be signing a long-term contract extension in the future and would prefer a change of scenery.

OPENER: DAVID KIROUAC-USA TODAY SPORTS;
TOP: DAN HAMILTON-USA TODAY SPORTS

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> HIS ENERGY, HIS COMPETE, HIS WILL TO WANT TO WIN AND BE SUCCESSFUL, **GUYS JUST FOLLOWED HIM RIGHT FROM THE START** – Sam Bennett

What happened next was a blockbuster swap that sent Huberdeau and ace defender MacKenzie Weegar to Calgary in exchange for Tkachuk, who signed an eight-year contract prior to the trade. In Florida, he saw a path to the Cup. "The biggest reason I wanted to come to Florida was to have this chance, hopefully for a long time," said Tkachuk the day before the Cup final began. "I know now what it takes to get to this point, and it ain't easy. That's why it's so hard to win this trophy. Seeing the dedication and what everyone has put into this, you almost want to win it for your teammates and everybody around you more than for yourself when you see what guys have played through."

During their run to the final, the Panthers were observably a tight-knit crew who had fun together. Sure, they had struggled during the season and only made the playoffs because Chicago – one of the worst teams in the league – beat Pittsburgh in the Pens' second-last game of the year, but there was a belief. This was not an offensive juggernaut anymore, this was a grinding machine. The fact they had to play the titans from Boston in the first round didn't faze them a bit, even when they fell behind 3-1 in the series. "Right from Game 1, we didn't win, but it gave us the confidence to say we deserved to be there," said Sam Reinhart. "A team like that had all the pressure on them to win, and we used that. As the No. 16 seed, no one really put us in this situation. We'd been playing tight games for a couple months, and we got confidence as we went. The ball kept rolling for us."

One of the pivotal moments came in Game 5, when Tkachuk scored the overtime-winner to keep the series alive. Post-game, he was awarded the game puck by defenseman Brandon Montour and then told his teammates that they would be back in Boston for Game 7.

Tkachuk put up three points in a 7-5 Game 6 victory back home, then watched Carter Verhaeghe sink the Bruins with his own overtime goal in Game 7, crushing the hearts of a Boston team that had just set the NHL record for the most points in a season with 135. After that, the Panthers steamrolled Toronto and Carolina with incredible defensive performances and standout netminding from Sergei Bobrovsky.

For Tkachuk, it was a matter of everyone figuring out what they did as an individual to be successful and how those skills translated into team success. He specifically cited Bobrovsky and captain Aleksander Barkov there, but he also knew why he was playing at such an elite level. "I

BRASH BONANZA

Confidence? Arrogance? Call it what you want, but Tkachuk was a force on and off the ice in his first season in Florida.

know what type of game I need to play for me to play well," he said. "And I know when I'm not playing well what I need to change. That consistency is the biggest thing, playing a very similar way throughout this year. The preparation I put in and realizing my game, I think that separates a lot of players when you can focus in on what makes you successful and do that every night."

Growing up in a famed hockey family, Tkachuk naturally benefitted from the time he spent at the rink watching dad Keith. He also had a great competitor coming up behind him in younger brother Brady, now the captain of the Ottawa Senators. The stories of their sibling rivalry are legendary (Matthew once sent Brady through the basement drywall with a blindside hit. Another time, their grandmother had to call in Blues rookie Phil McRae to break up their fight).

While the tutelage that Matthew received from his dad is well-known, there was another hockey legend who chipped in later in life: Jaromir Jagr. He and Tkachuk only played with each other during the 2017-18 season in Calgary, but the Czech icon made his presence felt immediately. "A lot of times when we were talking, I just wanted to know about the championships, the deep runs," Tkachuk said. "I remember seeing the off-ice work he put in. One time, we had a tough game, and he was working out for a few hours after. I asked him, 'How do you keep doing this?' And he said that's the stuff you have to do to make a difference in Games 5, 6 or 7. That's something I took from him, the work that he put in."

Tkachuk also made an immediate impact in Florida. While Barkov is the captain, there's no doubt that Tkachuk put his stamp on the dressing room early and often, much to the benefit of all on the Cats. "I listen a lot to player interviews, and he's brilliant at it," said coach Paul Maurice. "And he's 25 years old. So he has a deep confidence in himself and in his game, because that's exactly who he is. When he does an interview, that's Matthew Tkachuk. He doesn't have to manufacture a brand, and he doesn't have to go out and try to play a certain way. It's just him. He can just come to the rink, he knows what he's going to do and what he's good at, so there's almost an inner peace to your game. And in that way, you become very consistent."

But why was it such an easy transition in Florida? Keep in mind, this was a team that traded away its top scorer in Huberdeau, one of its best defensemen in Weegar and changed coaches, replacing Andrew Brunette with Maurice. "The easy answer is the teammates I've been able to get to know off the ice first and the chemistry I was able to start with in the beginning," Tkachuk said. "But a lot of it has to do with a guy like Sam Bennett, who I've been very familiar with and played with for the most part since Day 1. The guys on this team, there are so many great personalities. Everybody knows that for a team to go so far, you have to be the best of friends off ice, and we've been super lucky there."

As for his leadership role on and off the ice, where team dinners are just as important as hard practices, it's been a no-brainer for the franchise left winger. "To be in that po-

ALL-STAR ALL THE TIME

Tkachuk didn't win an award, but he was third in Hart voting, 17th in Selke voting and repeated as a second-team all-star.

LEFT: CHRISTOPHER HANEWINCKEL-USA TODAY SPORTS; MIDDLE: JOHN E. SOKOLOWSKI-USA TODAY SPORTS

sition, you have to do that stuff," Tkachuk said. "And it's not like our team forced anything, we wanted to do it. We all enjoy it, we all want to do it, and our team grew throughout the year. We're *so* tight. No cliques, no nothing that a majority of teams have. It doesn't matter how old you are, where you're from, everybody gets along."

In a league where the team has long been valued over the individual, Tkachuk also has the personality to move the needle outside hockey's bubble. And he's not alone; fellow Americans such as Trevor Zegras and Auston Matthews are also happy to put themselves out there, but neither of them have made a deep playoff run yet. Tkachuk, who joined the popular *NBA on TNT* panel (with noted hockey fan Charles Barkley, among others) after the Eastern Conference final and even landed an interview in *People* magazine, pierced that veil.

> "I KNOW NOW WHAT IT TAKES TO GET TO THIS POINT, AND IT AIN'T EASY. **THAT'S WHY IT'S SO HARD TO WIN THIS TROPHY**
>
> – Matthew Tkachuk

The fact he made a habit of scoring overtime goals and then celebrating by pointing to the door and leaving the ice ASAP didn't hurt, either. That combination of talent and personality is hard to turn away from, especially with a player who never takes a shift off. "He's been unbelievable since Day 1," said defenseman Aaron Ekblad. "He's vocal, he's fun, he knows when to turn on intense hockey and when to enjoy yourself. What he does on the ice is second to none. He's been one of the most valuable players in the league, and we're so happy to have him on our team."

Staying on the ice was a bit of a problem at the end, however. Tkachuk was booted from Games 1 and 2 of the Cup final after stirring up too much trouble with his agitating shenanigans, and it's perhaps no surprise that Florida lost both those contests. His massive hit on Jack Eichel in the second game was returned upon him in Game 3, when he was crushed by Vegas' Keegan Kolesar, but his comeback later in the game was celebrated

RIGHT: JASEN VINLOVE-USA TODAY SPORTS

with chants of "Chucky! Chucky!" by the Panthers' home crowd. He played sparingly in Game 4 and not at all in Game 5. Game 3 was the only Florida victory – but it's also when his sternum was broken. The fact he tried to gut it out in Game 4 is mind-blowing, but that's the kind of competitor Tkachuk is, for better or worse.

Whether or not he's healthy enough to start on opening night remains to be seen, and it will be tough for the Panthers to reclaim their magic once again. But if Tkachuk made anything abundantly clear last season, it's that he is must-see TV – whether you're cheering for him or against him. Or both.

NEW JACK CITY

BEWARE THE DEVILS: WITH THE FIENDISHLY SKILLED **JACK HUGHES** SURROUNDED BY A SLEW OF YOUNG TALENT (INCLUDING BROTHER LUKE), NEW JERSEY HAS FINALLY CRAWLED OUT OF THE SWAMP AND BACK INTO STANLEY CUP CONTENTION

BY **MICHAEL TRAIKOS**

THERE WERE 11 PLAYERS who scored 100 or more points in the NHL last year.

Jack Hughes nearly made it a dozen.

Heading into the final game of the regular season, the New Jersey Devils center was sitting on 97. He was close. All he needed was another big game. And having picked up points in each of his previous seven outings, there was every reason to believe he would get it against a Washington Capitals team that was already eliminated from post-season contention. Instead…

"I had a terrible game," Hughes said. "I'm pretty sure I gave up the first two goals if you rewatch it."

Terrible or not, Hughes picked up an assist early in the third period for point No. 98. He then set up his younger brother, Luke, for point No. 99. Unfortunately for Hughes, the point came in overtime. "Obviously, I'm a really competitive guy so I was pissed off I didn't get to 100," Hughes said. "That ship sailed. But it kind of ended the best way it could, with Luke scoring his first goal. That was pretty special. If you could have told me I could have got 100 in that game or rewatched Luke's goal, I would rewatch that every time."

Similarly, if you had told Hughes at the beginning of the year he would finish the season with 43 goals and 99 points – especially after how his first three seasons turned out – he'd probably take that as well. As an 18-year-old rookie in 2019-20, Hughes managed just 21 points. A year later, he had 31 points. Then 56 points in 2021-22.

Last season was the first when he stayed healthy, truly realized his po-

VINCENT CARCHIETTA-USA TODAY SPORTS

SERGEI BELSKI-USA TODAY SPORTS

tential as a top pick and took a major step toward stardom. And because of that, so did the Devils. "At the end of the day, when I take a step back, it was a really great year for myself, and I think it was massive for me," Hughes said. "It established me as a top player. I know I'll get to 100 one of these years. I look back and I (missed four) games. If I had played those, I would've got 100 for sure. But it was a great year for myself, a great year for my team. There's a lot of positives to take from that."

The biggest positive, of course, came in the post-season, where Hughes made the playoffs for the first time in his career – and the Devils won a playoff round for the first time in more than a decade. It was the kind of season no one could have predicted. Certainly not New Jersey fans, who were calling for coach Lindy Ruff's job right out of the gate. "I mean, we started off 0-2," said Hughes, laughing.

Two losses to start the season isn't that big of a deal. Or rather, it shouldn't have been that big of a deal. But tell that to an impatient fan base that had been waiting…and waiting…and waiting…for the rebuild to finally be over. So, when the Devils began the year with back-to-back 5-2 losses to the lowly Philadelphia Flyers and Detroit Red Wings, it set off alarm bells. And in the process, it brought out the boo birds, who serenaded Ruff with chants of "Fire Lindy!"

"It wasn't pressure on us, but it was like, 'All right, it's time for you guys to start winning hockey games,' you know?" Hughes said. "And we pretty much lost those first two games and we're like, 'Here we go again.' "

Well, hold that thought. In the third game of the season, New Jersey came from behind and beat the Anaheim Ducks 4-2. Two nights later, they won again. And then again. "The next thing you know, we snap off that 13-game winning streak," Hughes said. "Then the ball was completely rolling. And then we had a tough December and lost a lot of games, and we thought we were coming down to earth, and then we popped off once again. We stuck with it all year and had an exciting group of guys who did a really good job and amassed a great bunch of success."

It really was a banner year for the Devils, who finished with the third-best record overall and then knocked off the New York Rangers in the first round of the playoffs before losing to the Carolina Hurricanes. Along the way, Nico Hischier was voted a finalist for the Selke Trophy as the top defensive forward; Ruff was a finalist for the Jack Adams Award as top coach; and Hughes was a finalist for the Lady Byng Trophy recognizing his sportsmanship.

So New Jersey has arrived. "Now that our hat's in the ring a little bit," Hughes said, "we can get really competitive and start thinking about bigger things."

Bigger things, such as a Stanley Cup. Or, based on the ages of their core players, make that multiple Stanley Cups.

The fact the Devils are so young – Hughes is 22, while Hischier, Jesper Bratt and Dawson Mercer are all 25 or younger – was a major selling point when GM Tom Fitzgerald sat down to negotiate a contract extension with Timo Meier, who the Devils acquired from San Jose at last year's trade deadline. The pitch was this: if you think New Jersey is good now, just wait. With the cupboards stocked with high-end prospects, including defensemen Luke Hughes, drafted fourth overall in 2021, and Simon Nemec, drafted second overall in 2022, you haven't seen anything yet. (Meier bought in, signing an eight-year, $70.4-million deal.)

OFFENSIVE DEMON

Hughes broke out in a big way last season, jumping from 56 points in 2021-22 to 99. Next up: the century mark and beyond.

"Us and the rest of the league kind of understands that we've got a really good young group, and we're in a great spot for the next bunch of years," Hughes said. "Our window kind of opened last year. It was a good learning curve for us and to get that first series win under our belt. We kind of got beaten up by Carolina, but that's a good team. That was a good one for us. We're looking forward to the next challenge." H

DAD STRENGTH

JACOB MARKSTROM IS READY TO REBOUND ON A NEW-LOOK FLAMES SQUAD AFTER A PROPER SUMMER OF TRAINING. AND THE PROUD NEW PAPA MAY JUST HAVE A SECRET WEAPON

BY **CAROL SCHRAM**

SERGEI BELSKI-USA TODAY SPORTS

JAMES CAREY LAUDER-USA TODAY SPORTS

IF THE MEMBERS of hockey's analytics community want to scrutinize a new data set that could help predict future spikes in performance, they could do worse than to study up on Dad Strength.

It's a widespread topic of conversation, front-of-mind this summer after both Vegas' William Karlsson and Florida's Brandon Montour raised their games when they became first-time fathers during last season's playoffs.

A couple of months earlier in Calgary, on Feb. 27, Jacob Markstrom also joined the NHL's fatherhood fraternity. "It's been amazing," he said this summer. "I think he was six weeks when we flew back to Sweden, so it was nice to show him off."

The 33-year-old Flames goalie shares young Clark Marley with his fiancee, Amanda Ostervall. Back in their hometown of Gavle for the summer, they've visited with friends – many of whom also now have young children – and family members, including Markstrom's brother and sister, who recently became first-time parents themselves. "It's a close group of cousins there," he said.

Is there any chance that Markstrom's son's name is a tribute to Ian Clark, Markstrom's former goaltending coach? "If you ask him, it was all him," Markstrom said, smiling. "But no. My fiancee threw it out first. She didn't receive much pushback from me."

Clark returned to the Vancouver Canucks for his second tour of duty in 2018-19, and the pair spent two seasons together before Markstrom signed the six-year contract that brought him to Calgary. "He meant a lot to me in my career and in my life, and he made it possible for me to take another step in my hockey career," Markstrom said.

For the Flames, the 2022-23 campaign was mostly one to forget. It started with high expectations fuelled by the arrival of new faces such as Jonathan Huberdeau, Nazem Kadri and MacKenzie Weegar, and it ended with the team outside the playoffs and both GM Brad Treliving and coach Darryl Sutter leaving the organization.

Markstrom also had an off year, which was especially surprising as he was coming off a second-place finish in Vezina Trophy voting in 2021-22. He started 58 games in 2022-23 and finished with a 2.92 goals-against average and .892 save percentage. But at least both those stats improved down the stretch.

JACOB MARKSTROM

In the 20 games after he became a dad, Markstrom posted an 8-6-5 record. And his best game of the year may have been a 1-0 shootout victory on the road against the Minnesota Wild March 7, when he faced a season-high 40 shots.

The late-season surge kept Calgary in the playoff conversation until Game 81, four days before the end of the season. But rather than see if they could mirror the Florida Panthers' underdog success story, the Flames closed out the season two points behind eighth-place Winnipeg in the West.

"I THINK HE WAS SIX WEEKS WHEN WE FLEW BACK TO SWEDEN, SO IT WAS NICE TO SHOW HIM OFF

– Markstrom on his new son, Clark Marley

DOUSING ANY DOUBTS

His numbers dropped precipitously in 2022-23, but Markstrom is confident he'll be back on track with the new-look Flames.

Then, one year after saying goodbye to Matthew Tkachuk and Johnny Gaudreau, the organization underwent another round of foundational changes – this time in the front office and behind the bench. After spending the past 12 seasons in a support role with Flames management following his retirement from playing in 2011, Craig Conroy moved into the GM's chair. And after five seasons as an assistant coach through the Bill Peters, Geoff Ward and Darryl Sutter regimes, Ryan Huska will run his own bench this fall, for the first time at the NHL level.

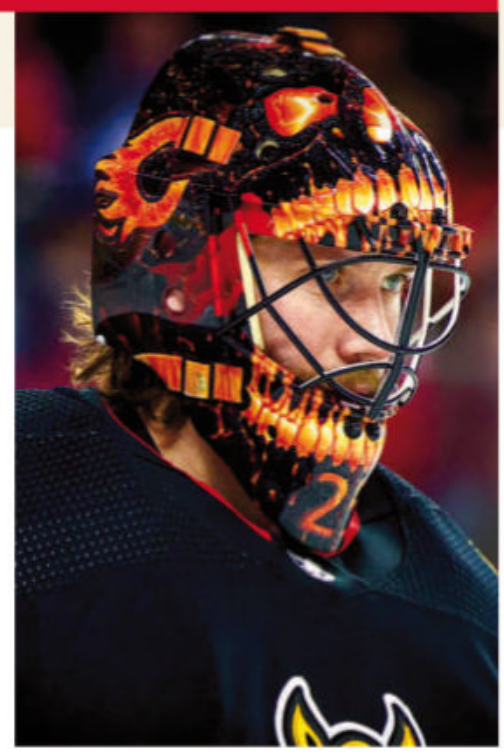
From Markstrom's point of view, it will be good to have a defensive specialist running the show. "Huska was in charge of the D-men and making sure that the defense and myself work together well," he said. "For me personally as a goalie, you want defense first, and then we score."

Not having a captain since Mark Giordano's departure two years ago hasn't caused a leadership void in the dressing room, according to Markstrom. But when the wins get scarce, cracks emerge in that internal support system. "When you lose a lot of games, it's tougher to stand up and

LEFT: SERGEI BELSKI-USA TODAY SPORTS; TOP: DAVID KIROUAC-USA TODAY SPORTS

SERGEI BELSKI-USA TODAY SPORTS

hold people accountable," he said. "I criticize myself a little bit for not trying to get the boys going more, because I was trying to find my game. "As a goalie, it's all mental. You're not really thinking about, 'OK guys, we need to get going here,' one goal behind or one goal up and all that stuff. You're so focused on trying to find your feeling. But when you're winning, everybody can throw tape at each other and yell and swear. That's the easy part."



Required to bend and stretch their bodies into and out of positions that would be unimaginable to us mere mortals, goalies can be tight-lipped about their injuries and rehab protocols. After all, we'd never understand.

Markstrom admits now that the wear and tear of 75 total games played through the 2021-22 regular season and the playoffs left its mark on his summer routine. "I had a few bumps on the body, and I couldn't do exactly what I've been doing the last three or four years," he said. "Summer training was a little bit of me needing more rest after a long season, to heal up everything so it would be ready to go when the season started."

This year, the routine went back to normal in Gavle, a city of around 90,000 that is also home to Nicklas Backstrom, Jakob Silfverberg, Calle Jarnkrok and netminders Felix Sandstrom and Jonas Johansson, among others. "I feel like half the city is NHL players," Markstrom said, chuckling. "I'm working out with a few other goalies and a trainer, Johan Holmqvist, who used to play in Tampa and New York. We have little goalie workouts and get on the ice and do some goalie drills."

"I CRITICIZE MYSELF A LITTLE BIT FOR NOT TRYING TO GET THE BOYS GOING MORE, BECAUSE I WAS TRYING TO FIND MY GAME – Jacob Markstrom

Healthy, rested and feeling confident about the summer's organizational changes, Markstrom heads into this season feeling like he has something to prove. "It's not good to have a chip on your shoulder," he said. "But for sure, it helps as motivation."

Dad Strength helps, too. H

X

CONNOR
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SHERWOOD

CAROLINA HURRICANES

SECOND TIME IS A CHARM

We picked the Canes last year, but injuries and Cinderella conspired against them (and us). So, if at first you don't succeed, try, try again... BY **JARED CLINTON**

IF YOU'LL allow for the cribbing and amending of a metaphor from Seinfeld, winning the Stanley Cup is like tipping over a Coke machine. Sure, you can do it, but you need to rock it back and forth a few times before the thing will topple over. So, while it's true there are teams who have ascended the NHL mountain without the generally requisite stumbles and falls, the clubs that muscle through in their first attempt are exceedingly few and even further between. More likely, there have been some lumps along the way.

Which brings us to the Carolina Hurricanes. As you perhaps recall, it was at this exact juncture last year we proclaimed Carolina would be the last club standing in 2022-23. For a time, too, it seemed a prescient pick. This was, however, before several forces – including an ill-timed Andrei Svechnikov injury, an ailing Teuvo Teravainen and not least of all the Cinderella-esque Florida Panthers – conspired to snuff out the Hurricanes' Cup dreams. So it goes.

Through rose-colored glasses, though, Carolina's second conference final in five seasons can be viewed as a natural step for a team that has been knocking on Lord Stanley's door since coach Rod Brind'Amour stepped behind the bench. If the surprise conference-final appearance in 2019 was a statement of intent, the subsequent first-, second-, and third-round exits have been the Hurricanes following a familiar progression. That is, in part, why we're predicting Carolina will be crowned champions in 2023-24, capturing the franchise's second title after claiming its first in 2006.

But it's about more than clearing past hurdles. The Canes have assembled a roster fit to weather any storm. In gunslinging affairs, Carolina has firepower, led by Svechnikov and Sebastian Aho. In tight-checking games, the NHL's deepest defense corps – to which Dmitry Orlov and Tony DeAngelo have been added – will allow the Canes to smother the opposition before capitalizing in transition. And when there's some snarl to proceedings, the abrasiveness of Brendan Lemieux and Michael Bunting should act as a figurative, and sometimes literal, counterpunch.

This is to say nothing, either, of the processes Brind'Amour has drilled into his team. Since

JAMES GUILLORY-USA TODAY SPORTS

MEET THE 2024 CUP CHAMPS

The Hurricanes have all the pieces, and we expect them to storm surge a path to Stanley.

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SAM NAVARRO-USA TODAY SPORTS

ROD BRIND'AMOUR

his arrival, the Hurricanes have been the league's most analytically superior squad in a number of key 5-on-5 categories. And while few Cup runs are completed without some admittedly unteachable moments of magic, not a single one has had so much as a hope of beginning without a strong and sturdy foundation in place.

Likeliest to stand in Carolina's way? We're backing Dallas, as the biggest thing in Texas this season might be the expectations heaped upon the Stars.

Like Carolina, Dallas has made its pushes – and even gone one step further – with two Western final appearances and one conference championship in the past five seasons. Unshackled under coach Peter DeBoer, the offense leapt to seventh in the NHL. That's thanks to Jason Robertson and Roope Hintz, who've taken and are now sprinting with the torch once held by Tyler Seguin and Jamie Benn. Dallas' attack improved when Matt Duchene arrived in free agency, too, and Craig Smith and Sam Steel are sneaky-good depth additions who can make a difference come crunch time.

Unlike the run-and-gun Stars of yesteryear, however, Dallas' success last season wasn't predicated solely on offense. To wit: only two teams allowed fewer goals against. On paper, and after crossing Miro Heiskanen and Esa Lindell off the list, the blueline may have its holes, but it's worth remembering that plugging those is Jake Oettinger, arguably the best young goalie in the game.

No doubt, when it comes to potential prediction-spoiling clubs, you can take your pick. And those picks begin with the high-flying Edmonton Oilers. In case you hadn't heard, they sport the world's greatest player in Connor McDavid, and there's a decent argument that they also sport the world's second-greatest player in Leon Draisaitl. But Edmonton is more than just a two-horse town. The Oilers have high-end skill and depth at all skater positions, and if the goaltending holds up, look out.

Of course, don't sleep on the reigning champion Golden Knights. Though battered and bruised – maybe more so than any other Cup-winning club in recent memory – Vegas will run it back with almost the same roster. The rarity of that opportunity won't be lost on them. And two years removed from their own title, the Colorado Avalanche added Ryan Johansen at half price before using the remaining cap space to bring aboard helpful bottom-six pieces who can complement one of the league's best top-six units.

In the East, and we can already feel the collective eye-rolling from those outside Leafs Nation, Toronto's curse-breaking first-round win will give the Maple Leafs a newfound resolve – as will the knowledge that this is all but certainly the so-called Core Four's last dance. New Jersey, on the other hand, has quickly gone from rebuilder to contender after setting a franchise record with 52 wins last season. A repeat performance won't come easy, particularly not in the Metropolitan Division, but the continued blossoming of Jack Hughes and Nico Hischier, along with a full season of Timo Meier, should result in qualitative, if not quantitative, gains.

As ever, though, the league's competitive balance stands to throw any forecasting into complete disarray. In addition to the Canes and Stars, we seriously considered the Oilers, Leafs, Avs, Knights and Devils as our Stanley Cup pick. And would anyone be surprised if Tampa Bay or Boston ended up as the last team standing? But we have to pick just one – and this time around, it feels like the Hurricanes have created the perfect storm.

The Hockey News
2023-24 PREDICTIONS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

1. Toronto Maple Leafs PG. 150
2. Tampa Bay Lightning PG. 146
3. Boston Bruins PG. 50
4. Buffalo Sabres* PG. 54
5. Ottawa Senators PG. 122
6. Florida Panthers PG. 90
7. Detroit Red Wings PG. 82
8. Montreal Canadiens PG. 102

Metropolitan Division

1. Carolina Hurricanes PG. 62
2. New Jersey Devils PG. 110
3. New York Rangers PG. 118
4. Pittsburgh Penguins* PG. 130
5. New York Islanders PG. 114
6. Washington Capitals PG. 162
7. Columbus Blue Jackets PG. 74
8. Philadelphia Flyers PG. 126

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

1. Colorado Avalanche PG. 70
2. Dallas Stars PG. 78
3. Minnesota Wild PG. 98
4. Winnipeg Jets PG. 166
5. St. Louis Blues PG. 134
6. Nashville Predators PG. 106
7. Arizona Coyotes PG. 46
8. Chicago Blackhawks PG. 66

Pacific Division

1. Edmonton Oilers PG. 86
2. Vegas Golden Knights PG. 158
3. Los Angeles Kings PG. 94
4. Calgary Flames* PG. 58
5. Seattle Kraken* PG. 142
6. Vancouver Canucks PG. 154
7. Anaheim Ducks PG. 42
8. San Jose Sharks PG. 138

*Wild-card playoff teams

STANLEY CUP PICK

Carolina defeats Dallas

ANAHEIM DUCKS

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BY **LISA DILLMAN**

CLUES THAT THINGS WERE not going to go well for the Ducks in 2022-23 surfaced early – in their second home pre-season game – when defenseman Urho Vaakanainen went hard into the end boards and had to be stretchered off the ice. Those signs turned into extended issues when the Ducks opened the season 1-6-1 and didn't win a game in regulation until Nov. 23. Misery remained a season-long theme, as the Ducks finished with the worst record in the league. Goaltender John Gibson put it best after the team's final game, duly noting that they were consistent at being inconsistent.

So, what now? While there's a new coach in Greg Cronin, the Ducks are still playing the long rebuild game, selling hope in the form of marketable stars such as forwards Trevor Zegras, Troy Terry, Mason McTavish, No. 2 pick Leo Carlsson and a host of promising 'D' prospects.

>OFFENSE

The Ducks' leading scorers up front and on defense hit career highs in a couple of categories – Zegras in assists (42) and points (65) and defenseman Cam Fowler in assists (38) and points (48). Impressively, for Fowler, those marks came in his 13th NHL campaign, and he wasn't even on the first power-play unit in the opening month of the season. Ryan Strome and Frank Vatrano should be more comfortable in Year 2 with the Ducks. Anaheim's forward group will be boosted by the addition of Alex Killorn, a two-time Stanley Cup champion with Tampa Bay. Killorn produced career highs with 27 goals and 64 points in 2022-23. He brings a winning pedigree and much-needed offensive acumen as the

2022-23 NUMBERS

RECORD
23-47-12 (.354)

OVERTIME
7-9

SHOOTOUT
3-3

OVERALL
32nd

OFFENSE
2.51 GPG (31st)

DEFENSE
4.09 GAA (32nd)

POWER PLAY
15.7% (31st)

PENALTY KILL
72.1% (31st)

CORSI FOR/60
49.59 (29th)

CORSI AGAINST/60
66.62 (32nd)

ICE TIME LEAD (F)
T. Terry (19:22)

ICE TIME LEAD (D)
C. Fowler (24:10)

FAST FACTS

COACH
Greg Cronin

GM
Pat Verbeek

ARENA
Honda Center

CAPACITY
17,174

AHL AFFILIATE
San Diego Gulls

ECHL AFFILIATE
Tulsa Oilers

PLAYOFF RECORD
0-0 (since 2019)

SERGEI BELSKI-USA TODAY SPORTS

ANAHEIM DUCKS

JOHN GIBSON

Ducks ranked second-last in the NHL in scoring, averaging 2.51 goals per game.

>DEFENSE

There was bound to be a drop-off last season after the Ducks shipped out veteran D-men Hampus Lindholm and Josh Manson at the 2022 trade deadline. But it hit rock bottom as the Ducks gave up the most goals (335) in a season since the 1995-96 San Jose Sharks. Four of the defensemen in last season's opening-night lineup have moved on – Kevin Shattenkirk, John Klingberg, Dmitry Kulikov and Nathan Beaulieu. Helping the cause will be a healthy 21-year-old Jamie Drysdale, who was limited to eight games last year, and free-agent additions Radko Gudas and Robert Hagg. The fear factor will be enhanced by Gudas, who brings a snarl and an imposing physical style.

>GOALTENDING

Gibson was under siege night after night, facing an historic number of shots. In fact, the Ducks' goalies faced an NHL record 39.1 shots per game. One of the burning summer questions dealt with Gibson's future: will the Ducks find him a new home and maximize the asset? Backup Anthony Stolarz signed with Florida in free agency, so expect to see an expanded role for youngster Lukas Dostal, who appeared in 19 games last season.

>SPECIAL TEAMS

The Ducks' power play and penalty kill both ranked 31st, but Killorn will strengthen the power play while Gudas will do the same with the PK. Drysdale could be incorporated into the PK as well. They'll also have a full season of Brock McGinn, who was acquired at the deadline from Pittsburgh in the Kulikov deal and was useful on the penalty kill.

>INTANGIBLES

A lot of leadership went out the door when the Ducks started down the rebuilding road, compounded when longtime captain Ryan Getzlaf retired after 2021-22. GM Pat Verbeek attempted to fill that vacuum with the signings of Killorn and Gudas on the first day of free agency, saying they'll bring instant credibility when they walk in the door.

CUP ODDS

85/1

>ROOKIES

Carlsson, a center, is the Ducks' highest draft pick since they drafted Bobby Ryan at No. 2 in 2005, and he won't be rushed. The AHL is an option for him. Center Benoit-Olivier Groulx, AHL San Diego's second-leading scorer last season with 39 points, could crack the bottom six. The Ducks may take a conservative approach with two other top prospects: defensemen Pavel Mintyukov and Olen Zellweger.

>X-FACTOR

In the hot mess of last season, there was one bright light: Terry. If the Ducks are to take the next step, he's the player who could be the glue guy between the incoming veterans and the young players who the Ducks are counting on for the future.

>THE BRASS

One of the most visible changes will be the one behind the bench with new coach Cronin, the most important hire so far by Verbeek. At Cronin's introductory press conference in June, Verbeek lauded the coach's blend of old-school values and new-school ways of teaching. Cronin joins the Ducks after spending the past five seasons coaching AHL Colorado, but he has a long track record, including time spent on Randy Carlyle's coaching staff in Toronto. Carlyle, the former Ducks coach, pointed out that Cronin is not warm and fuzzy. That might be just what this team in transition needs.

DEPTH CHART | 2023-24

LEFT WING	CENTER	RIGHT WING
1. Adam Henrique	1. Trevor Zegras	1. Troy Terry
2. Alex Killorn	2. Mason McTavish	2. Ryan Strome
3. Frank Vatrano	3. Isac Lundestrom	3. Jakob Silfverberg
4. Brock McGinn	4. Sam Carrick	4. Max Jones
5. Sasha Pastujov	5. Benoit-Olivier Groulx	5. Brett Leason

DEFENSE		GOALIE
1. Cam Fowler	6. Colton White	1. John Gibson
2. Jamie Drysdale	7. Urho Vaakanainen	2. Lukas Dostal
3. Radko Gudas	8. Jackson LaCombe	3. Alex Stalock
4. Robert Hagg	9. Drew Helleson	INJURED
5. Pavel Mintyukov	10. Olen Zellweger	INDICATES NEW ARRIVAL

KEY DEPARTURES & UNSIGNED UFAs Anthony Stolarz, G; Kevin Shattenkirk, D; Derek Grant, C; Max Comtois, LW; Jayson Megna, C

DAN HAMILTON-USA TODAY SPORTS

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FUTURE WATCH

WITH AN EMBARRASSMENT of blueline riches in their prospect pool, the Ducks filled in elsewhere at the draft, surprising many by taking center Leo Carlsson over Adam Fantilli. But Carlsson has great hockey sense and size, so he wasn't off the board. The return of Jamie Drysdale immediately helps the defense corps, but which other youngster joins him? Prospects Pavel Mintyukov, Jackson LaCombe and Olen Zellweger are ready to prove their NHL bona fides in the fall.

TOP 10 PROSPECTS

1. Leo Carlsson, C
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Orebro (Swe.)
Great vision, NHL frame and a responsible game. He projects as a future No. 1 pivot in Anaheim.
Acquired 2nd overall, 2023 **NHL** '23-24

2. Pavel Mintyukov, D
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Ottawa (OHL)
Deceptive skating paired with a money first pass make him a one-man breakout machine.
Acquired 10th overall, 2022 **NHL** '23-24

3. Olen Zellweger, D
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Kamloops (WHL)
Always threatens to turn defense into offense. Ducks believe he'll be a power-play quarterback.
Acquired 34th overall, 2021 **NHL** '24-25

4. Nathan Gaucher, C
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Quebec (QMJHL)
Has the requisite snarl and big-body presence to pick up the mantle from past power forwards.
Acquired 22nd overall, 2022 **NHL** '25-26

5. Nico Myatovic, LW
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Seattle (WHL)
Needs to bulk up, but his booming shot punishes opponents who give him too much space.
Acquired 33rd overall, 2023 **NHL** '26-27

6. Lukas Dostal, G
Age 23 **2022-23 Team** San Diego (AHL)
His work ethic and dedication to his craft give Anaheim faith he can contribute this year.
Acquired 85th overall, 2018 **NHL** '23-24

7. Jackson LaCombe, D
Age 22 **2022-23 Team** Minnesota (Big Ten)
Sharpening his offensive tools led to career-best NCAA campaign. Candidate to win spot in camp.
Acquired 39th overall, 2019 **NHL** '23-24

8. Carey Terrance, C
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Erie (OHL)
Forces defenders to respect his skating. Only scratched the surface with 30-goal OHL output.
Acquired 59th overall, 2023 **NHL** '27-28

9. Tyson Hinds, D
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Sherbrooke (QMJHL)
Put it all together en route to breakout season in the 'Q.' Potential diamond in the rough.
Acquired 76th overall, 2021 **NHL** '25-26

10. Noah Warren, D
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Gatineau (QMJHL)
Moves deceivingly well given his 6-foot-4 frame. Mobility and range bode well for his future.
Acquired 42nd overall, 2022 **NHL** '26-27

SCHEDULE | 2023-24

Sat, Oct 14	@ Vegas	10:00 PM
Sun, Oct 15	vs Carolina	8:30 PM
Thu, Oct 19	vs Dallas	10:00 PM
Sat, Oct 21	@ Arizona	4:00 PM
Sun, Oct 22	vs Boston	8:30 PM
Tue, Oct 24	@ Columbus	6:30 PM
Thu, Oct 26	@ Boston	7:00 PM
Sat, Oct 28	@ Philadelphia	1:00 PM
Mon, Oct 30	@ Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Wed, Nov 1	vs Arizona	10:00 PM
Sun, Nov 5	vs Vegas	8:00 PM
Tue, Nov 7	vs Pittsburgh	10:00 PM
Fri, Nov 10	vs Philadelphia	10:00 PM
Sun, Nov 12	vs San Jose	8:00 PM
Tue, Nov 14	@ Nashville	8:00 PM
Wed, Nov 15	@ Colorado	9:00 PM
Fri, Nov 17	vs Florida	10:00 PM
Sun, Nov 19	vs St. Louis	8:00 PM
Wed, Nov 22	vs Montreal	10:00 PM
Fri, Nov 24	vs Los Angeles	4:00 PM
Sun, Nov 26	@ Edmonton	9:00 PM
Tue, Nov 28	@ Vancouver	10:00 PM
Thu, Nov 30	vs Washington	10:00 PM
Sat, Dec 2	vs Colorado	10:00 PM
Tue, Dec 5	@ Colorado	9:00 PM
Thu, Dec 7	@ Chicago	8:30 PM
Sun, Dec 10	vs Winnipeg	8:00 PM
Wed, Dec 13	@ NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Fri, Dec 15	@ NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Sun, Dec 17	@ New Jersey	7:00 PM
Mon, Dec 18	@ Detroit	7:00 PM
Thu, Dec 21	vs Calgary	10:00 PM
Sat, Dec 23	vs Seattle	8:00 PM
Wed, Dec 27	vs Vegas	10:00 PM
Fri, Dec 29	vs Arizona	10:00 PM
Sun, Dec 31	vs Edmonton	8:00 PM
Wed, Jan 3	vs Toronto	9:00 PM
Fri, Jan 5	vs Winnipeg	10:00 PM
Sun, Jan 7	vs Detroit	8:00 PM
Tue, Jan 9	@ Nashville	8:00 PM
Thu, Jan 11	@ Carolina	7:00 PM
Sat, Jan 13	@ Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Mon, Jan 15	@ Florida	1:00 PM
Tue, Jan 16	@ Washington	7:00 PM
Sat, Jan 20	@ San Jose	10:00 PM
Sun, Jan 21	vs NY Rangers	8:30 PM
Tue, Jan 23	vs Buffalo	10:00 PM
Thu, Jan 25	@ Dallas	8:00 PM
Sat, Jan 27	@ Minnesota	9:00 PM
Wed, Jan 31	vs San Jose	10:00 PM
Fri, Feb 9	vs Edmonton	10:00 PM
Tue, Feb 13	@ Montreal	7:00 PM
Thu, Feb 15	@ Ottawa	7:00 PM
Sat, Feb 17	@ Toronto	7:00 PM
Mon, Feb 19	@ Buffalo	12:30 PM
Wed, Feb 21	vs Columbus	10:00 PM
Sat, Feb 24	@ Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Sun, Feb 25	vs Nashville	8:00 PM
Thu, Feb 29	@ San Jose	10:30 PM
Fri, Mar 1	vs New Jersey	10:00 PM
Sun, Mar 3	vs Vancouver	8:00 PM
Wed, Mar 6	vs Ottawa	10:00 PM
Fri, Mar 8	vs Dallas	10:00 PM
Sun, Mar 10	vs NY Islanders	8:00 PM
Tue, Mar 12	@ Chicago	8:30 PM
Thu, Mar 14	@ Minnesota	8:00 PM
Fri, Mar 15	@ Winnipeg	8:00 PM
Sun, Mar 17	@ St. Louis	7:00 PM
Tue, Mar 19	vs Minnesota	10:00 PM
Thu, Mar 21	vs Chicago	10:00 PM
Sun, Mar 24	vs Tampa Bay	8:30 PM
Tue, Mar 26	@ Seattle	10:00 PM
Thu, Mar 28	@ Seattle	10:00 PM
Sat, Mar 30	@ Edmonton	4:00 PM
Sun, Mar 31	@ Vancouver	3:30 PM
Tue, Apr 2	@ Calgary	9:00 PM
Fri, Apr 5	vs Seattle	10:00 PM
Sun, Apr 7	vs St. Louis	8:00 PM
Tue, Apr 9	vs Los Angeles	10:00 PM
Fri, Apr 12	vs Calgary	10:00 PM
Sat, Apr 13	@ Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Thu, Apr 18	@ Vegas	10:00 PM

CARLSSON: PAVEL KOUBEK / ICON PHOTOGRAPHY; FOWLER: PERRY NELSON-USA TODAY SPORTS

ORGANIZATIONAL ROSTER

ANAHEIM DUCKS

GOALIES	AGE	HT.	WT.	CATCHES	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	W-L-OT	GAA	SP
Gage Alexander	21	6-6	205	Left	Okotoks, Alta.	148th overall (2021)	San Diego (AHL)	16	5-7-3	3.59	.887
Vyacheslav Buteyets	21	6-4	185	Left	Chelyabinsk, Rus.	178th overall (2022)	Chelyabinsk (Rus.2)	35	18-12-4	2.11	.933
Calle Clang	21	6-2	194	Left	Olofstrom, Swe.	Trade: Pit 3/21/22	Rogle (Swe.)	25	12-10-0	2.69	.901
Damian Clara	18	6-6	214	Left	Brunico, Ita.	60th overall (2023)	Farjestad Jr. (Swe.)	35	17-17-0	2.79	.903
Lukas Dostal	23	6-2	174	Left	Brno, Cze.	85th overall (2018)	San Diego (AHL)	34	11-21-0	2.97	.912
John Gibson	30	6-2	210	Left	Pittsburgh, Pa.	39th overall (2011)	Anaheim	53	14-31-8	3.99	.899
Alex Stalock	36	5-11	170	Left	St. Paul, Minn.	Free Agent: signed 8/7/23	Chicago	27	9-15-2	3.01	.908

DEFENSEMEN	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Trevor Carrick	29	6-2	171	Left	Stouffville, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Syracuse (AHL)	60	15	31	46	45
Rodwin Dionicio	19	6-2	207	Left	Newark, N.J.	129th overall (2023)	Niagara/Windsor (OHL)	50	15	35	50	45
Jamie Drysdale	21	5-11	183	Right	Toronto, Ont.	6th overall (2020)	Anaheim	8	0	0	0	2
Cam Fowler	31	6-2	215	Left	Windsor, Ont.	12th overall (2010)	Anaheim	82	10	38	48	14
William Francis	22	6-5	207	Right	St. Paul, Minn.	163rd overall (2019)	Minn.-Duluth (NCHC)	28	0	1	1	22
Radko Gudas	33	6-0	208	Right	Prague, Cze.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Florida	72	2	15	17	79
Robert Hagg	28	6-2	210	Left	Uppsala, Swe.	Free Agent: signed 7/4/23	Detroit	38	2	5	7	26
Drew Helleson	22	6-3	190	Right	Farmington, Minn.	Trade: Col 3/14/22	San Diego (AHL)	65	5	13	18	5
Tyson Hinds	20	6-3	178	Left	Gatineau, Que.	76th overall (2021)	Sherbrooke (QMJHL)	56	11	43	54	24
Jackson LaCombe	22	6-2	205	Left	Eden Prairie, Minn.	39th overall (2019)	Minnesota (Big Ten)	37	9	26	35	13
Tristan Luneau	19	6-1	175	Right	Victoriaville, Que.	53rd overall (2022)	Gatineau (QMJHL)	65	20	63	83	31
Pavel Mintyukov	19	6-1	192	Left	Moscow, Rus.	10th overall (2022)	Saginaw/Ottawa (OHL)	69	24	64	88	26
Ian Moore	21	6-2	171	Right	Salt Lake City, Utah	67th overall (2020)	Harvard (ECAC)	34	1	18	19	12
Vojtech Port	18	6-2	168	Right	Jihlava, Cze.	161st overall (2023)	Red Deer/Edmonton (WHL)	48	4	13	17	16
Konnor Smith	18	6-6	209	Left	Windsor, Ont.	97th overall (2023)	Peterborough (OHL)	65	3	12	15	68
Urho Vaakanainen	24	6-2	200	Left	Joensuu, Fin.	Trade: Bos 3/19/22	Anaheim	23	0	2	2	0
Noah Warren	19	6-4	214	Right	Montreal, Que.	42nd overall (2022)	Gatineau (QMJHL)	47	3	17	20	35
Colton White	26	6-1	187	Left	London, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/14/22	Anaheim	46	0	6	6	8
Olen Zellweger	20	5-9	175	Left	Calgary, Alta.	34th overall (2021)	Everett/Kamloops (WHL)	55	32	48	80	40

CENTERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Ethan Bowen	21	6-1	154	Left	Chilliwack, B.C.	207th overall (2020)	Chilliwack (BCHL)	39	18	25	43	36
Leo Carlsson	18	6-3	198	Left	Karlstad, Swe.	2nd overall (2023)	Orebro (Swe.)	44	10	15	25	6
Sam Carrick	31	6-0	200	Right	Markham, Ont.	Trade: Tor 3/1/17	Anaheim	52	3	4	7	86
Nathan Gaucher	19	6-3	208	Right	Chambly, Que.	22nd overall (2022)	Quebec (QMJHL)	44	22	24	46	67
Glenn Gawdin	26	6-1	191	Right	Richmond, B.C.	Free Agent: signed 7/14/22	San Diego (AHL)	57	17	16	33	49
Benoit-Olivier Groulx	23	6-2	200	Left	Rouen, Fra.	54th overall (2018)	San Diego (AHL)	63	18	21	39	41
Adam Henrique	33	6-0	195	Left	Brantford, Ont.	Trade: NJ 11/30/17	Anaheim	62	22	16	38	22
Trevor Janicke	22	5-10	193	Right	Maple Grove, Minn.	132nd overall (2019)	Notre Dame (Big Ten)	37	8	14	22	12
Ben King	21	6-3	200	Right	Vernon, B.C.	107th overall (2022)	Red Deer (WHL)	30	17	18	35	27
Kyle Kukkonen	20	5-10	172	Right	Maple Grove, Minn.	162nd overall (2021)	Michigan Tech (CCHA)	39	18	9	27	18
Josh Lopina	22	6-2	195	Right	Chicago, Ill.	98th overall (2021)	San Diego (AHL)	59	2	2	4	20
Isac Lundestrom	23	6-0	193	Left	Gallivare, Swe.	23rd overall (2018)	Anaheim	61	4	10	14	2
Mason McTavish	20	6-0	213	Left	Zurich, Sui.	3rd overall (2021)	Anaheim	80	17	26	43	44
Nikita Nesterenko	22	6-2	183	Left	Brooklyn, N.Y.	Trade: Min 3/3/23	Boston College (HE)	36	13	21	34	18
Ryan Strome	30	6-1	191	Right	Mississauga, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Anaheim	82	15	26	41	79
Albin Sundsvik	22	6-2	187	Left	Stockholm, Swe.	160th overall (2020)	Skelleftea (Swe.)	52	3	8	11	8
Carey Terrance	18	6-1	175	Left	Akwesasne, N.Y.	59th overall (2023)	Erie (OHL)	67	30	17	47	22
Trevor Zegras	22	6-0	185	Left	Bedford, N.Y.	9th overall (2019)	Anaheim	81	23	42	65	88

LEFT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Andrew Agozzino	32	5-10	187	Left	Kleinburg, Ont.	Trade: SJ 6/27/23	San Jose (AHL)	63	26	35	61	72
Chase De Leo	27	5-9	185	Left	La Mirada, Calif.	Free Agent: signed 7/14/22	San Diego (AHL)	22	9	14	23	10
Artyom Galimov	24	6-0	176	Left	Samara, Rus.	129th overall (2020)	Kazan (KHL)	63	7	6	13	24
Connor Hvidston	19	6-2	164	Left	Saskatoon, Sask.	139th overall (2022)	Swift Current (WHL)	59	21	44	65	34
Max Jones	25	6-3	216	Left	Rochester, Mich.	24th overall (2016)	Anaheim	69	9	10	19	77
Alex Killorn	34	6-1	194	Left	Halifax, N.S.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Tampa Bay	82	27	37	64	45
Brock McGinn	29	6-0	187	Left	Fergus, Ont.	Trade: Pit 3/3/23	Pittsburgh/Anaheim	75	12	7	19	21
Blake McLaughlin	23	5-11	160	Left	Grand Rapids, Minn.	79th overall (2018)	Tulsa (ECHL)	43	14	20	34	38
Nico Myatovic	18	6-2	182	Left	Prince George, B.C.	33rd overall (2023)	Seattle (WHL)	68	30	30	60	41
Pavol Regenda	23	6-4	212	Left	Michalovce, Svk.	Free Agent: signed 6/1/22	San Diego (AHL)	50	13	12	25	66
Brayden Tracey	22	6-0	177	Left	Calgary, Alta.	29th overall (2019)	San Diego (AHL)	62	10	18	28	40

RIGHT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Michael Callow	19	6-4	181	Right	Boston, Mass.	154th overall (2022)	Muskegon (USHL)	61	21	19	40	20
Judd Caulfield	22	6-3	207	Right	Grand Forks, N.D.	Trade: Pit 3/31/23	North Dakota (NCHC)	39	10	9	19	12
Sam Colangelo	21	6-2	205	Right	Stoneham, Mass.	36th overall (2020)	Northeastern (HE)	35	9	15	24	12
Brett Leason	24	6-5	218	Right	Calgary, Alta.	Waivers: Ana 10/10/22	Anaheim	54	6	3	9	14
Sasha Pastujov	20	6-0	184	Left	Bradenton, Fla.	66th overall (2021)	Guelph/Sarnia (OHL)	60	41	57	98	39
Jacob Perreault	21	5-11	192	Right	Montreal, Que.	27th overall (2020)	San Diego (AHL)	48	8	11	19	44
Coulson Pitre	18	6-1	172	Right	Newmarket, Ont.	65th overall (2023)	Flint (OHL)	59	25	35	60	42
Yegor Sidorov	19	6-0	182	Left	Vitebsk, Blr.	85th overall (2023)	Saskatoon (WHL)	53	40	36	76	39
Jakob Silfverberg	32	6-1	207	Right	Gavle, Swe.	Trade: Ott 7/5/13	Anaheim	81	10	16	26	32
Troy Terry	26	6-0	185	Right	Denver, Colo.	148th overall (2015)	Anaheim	70	23	38	61	22
Frank Vatrano	29	5-11	197	Left	East Longmeadow, Mass.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Anaheim	81	22	19	41	66
Jaxsen Wiebe	21	6-1	209	Right	Moose Jaw, Sask.	Free Agent: signed 3/2/23	Edmonton/Prince George (WHL)	45	14	25	39	106

ARIZONA COYOTES

CLAYTON KELLER

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BY **DANNY KARMIN**

THE COYOTES MADE THEIR Tempe debut in Arizona State University's brand-new multi-purpose Mullett Arena, which has a modest NHL seating capacity of 4,600. Arizona had the 19th-best home record in 2022-23, finishing 21-15-5. Despite their decent showing at home, the Coyotes finished as the sixth-worst team in the league and missed the playoffs for a 10th straight season (not including the 2020 bubble).

The team received some disappointing news regarding their own permanent rink and future in Tempe. The Coyotes' plan to build a new arena in Tempe as part of a $2.1-billion entertainment district was rejected by voters in May, putting a major question mark on their future in The Valley.

The Coyotes continue to have an abundance of salary-cap space as they work their way through the rebuild. They signed second- or third-tier UFAs in Jason Zucker, Nick Bjugstad, Alex Kerfoot, Zach Sanford and Troy Stecher, but they could all end up as deadline trade bait. The most significant move was acquiring two-way defenseman Sean Durzi from Los Angeles. At 24, he's part of the long-term plans on the blueline. Defenseman Matt Dumba was also added as a UFA on a one-year deal.

>OFFENSE

Star right winger Clayton Keller carried the offense with a career year of 37 goals and 86 points. Only two other forwards crested 20 goals: Lawson Crouse (24) and Nick Schmaltz (22). On the back end, defenseman Juuso Valimaki – after showing flashes in parts of three seasons in Calgary – came into his own in his first sea-

2022-23 NUMBERS

RECORD
28-40-14 (.427)

OVERTIME
5-10

SHOOTOUT
3-4

OVERALL
27th

OFFENSE
2.74 GPG (27th)

DEFENSE
3.60 GAA (24th)

POWER PLAY
18.9% (24th)

PENALTY KILL
74.6% (27th)

CORSI FOR/60
48.78 (31st)

CORSI AGAINST/60
59.32 (25th)

ICE TIME LEAD (F)
C. Keller (20:45)

ICE TIME LEAD (D)
J. Moser (21:03)

FAST FACTS

COACH
Andre Tourigny

GM
Bill Armstrong

ARENA
Mullett Arena

CAPACITY
4,600

AHL AFFILIATE
Tucson Roadrunners

ECHL AFFILIATE
None

PLAYOFF RECORD
4-5 (since 2019)

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ARIZONA COYOTES

son in Arizona and put up 34 points in 78 games. Beyond Keller, the Coyotes struggled to score, averaging 2.74 goals per game, sixth-worst in the league. At least Matias Maccelli – who finished second in NHL rookie scoring – was a pleasant surprise, posting 49 points during his freshman campaign, a total he'll look to add to in 2023-24.

>DEFENSE

After trading longtime defenseman Jakob Chychrun at the deadline, Arizona is committed to ensuring spots for young and surging blueliners. Durzi had 38 points in 72 games for the Kings and can help improve the Coyotes' power play. A lot of the shine has come off Dumba in recent years, but the hope is he can recapture his form and be the team's de facto No. 1. Arizona also signed Stecher as a UFA for the second summer in a row. He'll fill a depth role – until he's traded again.

>GOALTENDING

One of the lone bright spots from the 2022-23 season was the Coyotes' goaltending. Karel Vejmelka and Connor Ingram gave the Coyotes a chance to win on most nights. Their numbers weren't great, but that was the result of playing on a poor defensive team. Vejmelka was clearly the No. 1 last season, playing in 50 games to Ingram's 27, but Ingram impressed the Coyotes enough to earn a new contract in the off-season.

>SPECIAL TEAMS

The Coyotes' power play came in at 18.9 percent last season, 24th in the league. Forwards Keller, Schmaltz and Crouse tied for the team lead in power-play goals with six apiece. Durzi will help from the back end, as he had 16 power-play points for the Kings last season. The Coyotes' penalty kill also struggled, finishing as the NHL's 27th-ranked unit, at 74.6-percent efficiency. With his speed and competitiveness, Zucker will be a key addition on the penalty kill.

>INTANGIBLES

The Coyotes enter 2023-24 without a captain, but there are capable players who have an important role and voice in the dressing room. Power forward Crouse is entering his eighth season with the Coyotes and is viewed as one of the team leaders while serving as an alternate captain. Crouse's two-way game and toughness make him a prime example of someone who youngsters such as Maccelli can look up to.

CUP ODDS

70/1

>ROOKIES

After signalling an intention to return to NCAA Minnesota, 2022 No. 3 pick Logan Cooley signed with Arizona in late July. A Hobey Baker finalist as a freshman last season, Cooley will threaten for the Calder Trophy this time around. Dylan Guenther, the Coyotes' 2021 first-rounder, isn't Calder eligible after playing 33 games in 2022-23, but he's ready for regular NHL duty, adding scoring punch to the top nine.

>X-FACTOR

Any player worth his salt is able to compartmentalize, but the franchise's off-ice uncertainty will be tough to ignore in the dressing room. How the team reacts could play a role in the Coyotes' performance this season, and how the team performs this season could dictate the club's future in Arizona.

>THE BRASS

Coach Andre Tourigny is entering his third season behind the Coyotes' bench. He wants his team to play a strong two-way game with speed and edge. GM Bill Armstrong brought in veteran players in the off-season to help guide the youngsters and have his team play more meaningful games.

DEPTH CHART | 2023-24

LEFT WING	CENTER	RIGHT WING
1. Clayton Keller	1. Barrett Hayton	1. Nick Schmaltz
2. Matias Maccelli	2. Logan Cooley	2. Lawson Crouse
3. Jason Zucker	3. Nick Bjugstad	3. Dylan Guenther
4. Zach Sanford	4. Jack McBain	4. Alexander Kerfoot
5. Liam O'Brien	5. Travis Boyd	5. Michael Carcone

DEFENSE		GOALIE
1. Matt Dumba	6. Josh Brown	1. Karel Vejmelka
2. J.J. Moser	7. Victor Soderstrom	2. Connor Ingram
3. Sean Durzi	8. Travis Dermott	3. Ivan Prosvetov
4. Juuso Valimaki	9. Vladislav Kolyachonok	INJURED
5. Troy Stecher	10. Steven Kampfer	INDICATES NEW ARRIVAL

KEY DEPARTURES & UNSIGNED UFAs Christian Fischer, RW Patrik Nemeth, D; Zack Kassian, RW; Brett Ritchie, RW; Connor Mackey, D; Laurent Dauphin, C

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FUTURE WATCH

THE COYOTES ARE LOOKING to the future and don't mind that both their 2023 first-round picks, Dmitriy Simashev and Daniil But, are signed in Russia for the next two years. GM Bill Armstrong and his scouting staff have continued to add size to the prospect pool. Toss in Conor Geekie and Maveric Lamoureux and the desert could be a forest of redwoods in a couple years. Logan Cooley, who decided to leave school for the NHL, is the No. 1 center they need – even if he isn't tall.

TOP 10 PROSPECTS

1. Logan Cooley, C
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Minnesota (Big Ten)
One of the best playmaking prospects in the world. Signed NHL deal and ready to go pro.
Acquired 3rd overall, 2022 **NHL** '23-24

2. Dmitriy Simashev, D
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Loko Yaroslavl Jr. (Rus.)
A beautiful skating stride and big wingspan are great tools. He'll need time before he's ready.
Acquired 6th overall, 2023 **NHL** '26-27

3. Daniil But, LW
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Loko Yaroslavl Jr. (Rus.)
Pass-first, playmaking mentality in a behemoth frame. At 6-foot-5, he's built for hard areas.
Acquired 12th overall, 2023 **NHL** '25-26

4. Conor Geekie, C
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Winnipeg (WHL)
His game is built on mistake-free play. Great combination of skill, size and versatility.
Acquired 11th overall, 2022 **NHL** '24-25

5. Michael Hrabal, G
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Omaha (USHL)
Daylight is rare behind the 6-foot-6 keeper. He seals the net and casts a shadow in the crease.
Acquired 38th overall, 2023 **NHL** '28-29

6. Maveric Lamoureux, D
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Drummondville (QMJHL)
His physicality belies other gifts, like good vision and a crisp first pass. He'll need time.
Acquired 29th overall, 2022 **NHL** '26-27

7. Artem Duda, D
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** K.A. Moscow Jr. (Rus.)
Moving to NCAA Maine will help the slick D-man by easing his transition to North American ice.
Acquired 36th overall, 2022 **NHL** '27-28

8. Ilya Fedotov, LW
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Nizhnekamsk (KHL)
His hunger to make plays and create is eye-catching. He's also not afraid to mix it up.
Acquired 43rd overall, 2021 **NHL** '25-26

9. Julian Lutz, LW
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Munich (Ger.)
Project whose production has been modest as he continues to acclimate to the men's game.
Acquired 43rd overall, 2022 **NHL** '26-27

10. Josh Doan, RW
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** Arizona State (NCAA)
Son of Shane follows in father's footsteps and plays a similar game: with poise and power.
Acquired 37th overall, 2021 **NHL** '24-25

SCHEDULE | 2023-24

Fri, Oct 13	@ New Jersey	7:00 PM
Mon, Oct 16	@ NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Tue, Oct 17	@ NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Thu, Oct 19	@ St. Louis	8:00 PM
Sat, Oct 21	vs Anaheim	4:00 PM
Tue, Oct 24	@ Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Fri, Oct 27	vs Los Angeles	10:00 PM
Mon, Oct 30	vs Chicago	10:00 PM
Wed, Nov 1	@ Anaheim	10:00 PM
Thu, Nov 2	vs Montreal	10:00 PM
Sat, Nov 4	vs Winnipeg	4:00 PM
Tue, Nov 7	vs Seattle	9:00 PM
Thu, Nov 9	@ St. Louis	8:00 PM
Sat, Nov 11	@ Nashville	8:00 PM
Tue, Nov 14	@ Dallas	8:00 PM
Thu, Nov 16	@ Columbus	7:00 PM
Sat, Nov 18	@ Winnipeg	7:00 PM
Mon, Nov 20	vs Los Angeles	9:00 PM
Wed, Nov 22	vs St. Louis	9:00 PM
Sat, Nov 25	@ Vegas	10:00 PM
Tue, Nov 28	vs Tampa Bay	9:00 PM
Thu, Nov 30	vs Colorado	9:00 PM
Sat, Dec 2	vs St. Louis	9:00 PM
Mon, Dec 4	vs Washington	9:00 PM
Thu, Dec 7	vs Philadelphia	9:00 PM
Sat, Dec 9	@ Boston	1:00 PM
Mon, Dec 11	@ Buffalo	7:00 PM
Tue, Dec 12	@ Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Fri, Dec 15	vs San Jose	9:00 PM
Sat, Dec 16	vs Buffalo	9:00 PM
Tue, Dec 19	vs Ottawa	9:00 PM
Thu, Dec 21	@ San Jose	10:30 PM
Sat, Dec 23	@ Colorado	9:00 PM
Wed, Dec 27	vs Colorado	9:00 PM
Fri, Dec 29	@ Anaheim	10:00 PM
Tue, Jan 2	vs Florida	9:00 PM
Thu, Jan 4	vs NY Islanders	9:00 PM
Sun, Jan 7	vs Winnipeg	7:00 PM
Tue, Jan 9	vs Boston	9:00 PM
Thu, Jan 11	vs Calgary	9:00 PM
Sat, Jan 13	@ Minnesota	8:00 PM
Tue, Jan 16	@ Calgary	9:00 PM
Thu, Jan 18	@ Vancouver	10:00 PM
Sat, Jan 20	vs Nashville	3:00 PM
Mon, Jan 22	vs Pittsburgh	9:00 PM
Wed, Jan 24	@ Florida	7:00 PM
Thu, Jan 25	@ Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Sat, Jan 27	@ Carolina	7:00 PM
Thu, Feb 8	vs Vegas	9:00 PM
Sat, Feb 10	@ Nashville	8:00 PM
Mon, Feb 12	@ Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Wed, Feb 14	vs Minnesota	9:30 PM
Fri, Feb 16	vs Carolina	9:00 PM
Sun, Feb 18	@ Colorado	6:00 PM
Mon, Feb 19	vs Edmonton	4:00 PM
Wed, Feb 21	vs Toronto	10:00 PM
Sun, Feb 25	@ Winnipeg	6:00 PM
Tue, Feb 27	@ Montreal	7:00 PM
Thu, Feb 29	@ Toronto	7:00 PM
Fri, Mar 1	@ Ottawa	7:00 PM
Sun, Mar 3	@ Washington	1:00 PM
Tue, Mar 5	vs Chicago	9:00 PM
Thu, Mar 7	vs Minnesota	9:00 PM
Fri, Mar 8	vs Detroit	9:00 PM
Sun, Mar 10	@ Chicago	6:00 PM
Tue, Mar 12	@ Minnesota	8:00 PM
Thu, Mar 14	@ Detroit	7:00 PM
Sat, Mar 16	vs New Jersey	5:00 PM
Wed, Mar 20	@ Dallas	8:00 PM
Fri, Mar 22	vs Seattle	10:00 PM
Sun, Mar 24	vs Dallas	8:00 PM
Tue, Mar 26	vs Columbus	10:00 PM
Thu, Mar 28	vs Nashville	10:00 PM
Sat, Mar 30	vs NY Rangers	6:00 PM
Wed, Apr 3	vs Vancouver	10:00 PM
Fri, Apr 5	vs Vegas	10:00 PM
Sun, Apr 7	@ San Jose	6:00 PM
Tue, Apr 9	@ Seattle	10:00 PM
Wed, Apr 10	@ Vancouver	10:30 PM
Fri, Apr 12	@ Edmonton	9:00 PM
Sun, Apr 14	@ Calgary	8:00 PM
Wed, Apr 17	vs Edmonton	10:00 PM

COOLEY: UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA ATHLETICS; VEJMELKA: NICK TURCHIARO-USA TODAY SPORTS

ORGANIZATIONAL ROSTER

ARIZONA COYOTES

GOALIES	AGE	HT.	WT.	CATCHES	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	W-L-OT	GAA	SP	
Michael Hrabal	18	6-6	209	Left	Prague, Cze.	38th overall (2023)	Omaha (USHL)	31	9-13-4	2.86	.908	
Connor Ingram	26	6-2	196	Left	Saskatoon, Sask.	Waivers: Nsh 10/10/22	Arizona	27	6-13-8	3.37	.907	
Josef Korenar	25	6-1	185	Left	Pelhrimov, Cze.	Trade: SJ 7/17/21	Prague (Cze.)	15	9-4-0	2.21	.901	
Rasmus Korhonen	20	6-5	194	Left	Tampere, Fin.	122nd overall (2021)	Assat (Fin.)	15	5-4-3	2.92	.879	
Carsen Musser	18	6-4	215	Left	Fairmont, Minn.	166th overall (2023)	USA U18 (NTDP)	28	14-6-1	3.07	.890	
Ivan Prosvetov	24	6-5	195	Left	Moscow, Rus.	114th overall (2018)	Tucson (AHL)	35	16-13-4	3.06	.900	
Melker Thelin	18	6-2	170	Left	Umea, Swe.	134th overall (2023)	Tegs (Swe.3)	15	8-7-0	2.11	.930	
Anson Thornton	20	6-3	180	Right	Oshawa, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 10/11/21	Barrie (OHL)	44	29-9-5	3.13	.903	
Karel Vejmelka	27	6-4	224	Right	Trebic, Cze.	Free Agent: signed 5/4/21	Arizona	50	18-24-6	3.43	.900	
Matt Villalta	24	6-3	190	Left	Kingston, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Ontario (AHL)	22	12-8-1	2.65	.910	
DEFENSEMEN	**AGE**	**HT.**	**WT.**	**SHOOTS**	**BORN**	**ACQUIRED**	**2022-23**	**GP**	**G**	**A**	**P**	**PIM**
Josh Brown	29	6-5	220	Right	London, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Arizona	68	4	3	7	87
Cameron Crotty	24	6-3	182	Right	Ottawa, Ont.	82nd overall (2017)	Tucson (AHL)	64	1	12	13	30
Travis Dermott	26	6-0	202	Left	Newmarket, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/11/23	Vancouver	11	1	0	1	2
Artem Duda	19	6-1	187	Left	Moscow, Rus.	36th overall (2022)	K.A. Moscow Jr. (Rus.)	14	5	8	13	2
Matt Dumba	29	6-0	181	Right	Regina, Sask.	Free Agent: signed 8/6/23	Minnesota	79	4	10	14	81
Sean Durzi	24	6-0	195	Right	Mississauga, Ont.	Trade: LA 6/24/23	Los Angeles	72	9	29	38	50
Terrell Goldsmith	18	6-4	223	Left	Fort St. James, B.C.	102nd overall (2023)	Prince Albert (WHL)	58	3	6	9	102
Steven Kampfer	35	5-11	198	Right	Ann Arbor, Mich.	Trade: Det 3/9/23	Grand Rapids/Tus. (AHL)	59	6	23	29	38
Michael Kesselring	23	6-4	190	Right	New Hampton, N.H.	Trade: Edm 3/2/23	Bakersfield/Tus. (AHL)	59	15	14	29	47
Justin Kipkie	18	6-3	195	Left	North Vancouver, B.C.	160th overall (2023)	Victoria (WHL)	67	8	25	33	57
Patrik Koch	26	6-1	190	Left	Malacky, Svk.	Free Agent: signed 6/5/23	Vitkovice (Cze.)	46	3	9	12	69
Vladislav Kolyachonok	22	6-1	193	Left	Minsk, Blr.	Trade: Fla 7/26/21	Tucson (AHL)	71	3	18	21	52
Patrick Kudla	27	6-3	175	Left	Guelph, Ont.	158th overall (2016)	Idaho (ECHL)	59	8	42	50	25
Maveric Lamoureux	19	6-6	196	Right	Laval, Que.	29th overall (2022)	Drummondville (QMJHL)	35	5	14	19	62
Jeremy Langlois	20	6-0	186	Left	St-Brigitte-de-Laval, Que.	94th overall (2022)	Cape Breton/Quebec (QMJHL)	61	11	39	50	42
Matthew Morden	19	6-4	203	Left	Hamilton, Ont.	131st overall (2022)	Muskegon (USHL)	57	3	18	21	36
J.J Moser	23	6-1	173	Left	Biel, Sui.	60th overall (2021)	Arizona	82	7	24	31	35
Montana Onyebuchi	23	6-3	201	Right	Winnipeg, Man.	Free Agent: signed 7/2/23	San Jose (AHL)	35	3	7	10	73
Dmitriy Simashev	18	6-4	198	Left	Kostroma, Rus.	6th overall (2023)	Loko Yaroslavl/Loko-76 Jr. (Rus.)	33	1	11	12	41
Victor Soderstrom	22	5-11	184	Right	Gavle, Swe.	11th overall (2019)	Tucson (AHL)	44	2	19	21	28
Troy Stecher	29	5-10	184	Right	Richmond, B.C.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Arizona/Calgary	81	3	11	14	44
Maksymilian Szuber	21	6-3	190	Left	Opole, Pol.	163rd overall (2022)	Munich (Ger.)	46	3	7	10	8
Cal Thomas	20	6-0	185	Left	Maple Grove, Minn.	171st overall (2021)	Minnesota (Big Ten)	40	0	6	6	4
Juuso Valimaki	24	6-2	205	Left	Tampere, Fin.	Waivers: Cgy 10/9/22	Arizona	78	4	30	34	59
Shea Weber	38	6-4	230	Right	Sicamous, B.C.	Trade: Veg 2/22/23	Vegas/Arizona			DNP		
CENTERS	**AGE**	**HT.**	**WT.**	**SHOOTS**	**BORN**	**ACQUIRED**	**2022-23**	**GP**	**G**	**A**	**P**	**PIM**
Filip Barklund	21	5-11	159	Left	Stockholm, Swe.	173rd overall (2020)	Lindloven (Swe.3)	36	15	19	34	10
Samu Bau	19	6-5	214	Left	Helsinki, Fin.	162nd overall (2023)	Ilves (Fin.)	25	1	1	2	2
Nick Bjugstad	31	6-6	209	Right	Minneapolis, Minn.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Arizona/Edmonton	78	17	12	29	34
Travis Boyd	30	6-0	190	Right	Hopkins, Minn.	Free Agent: signed 8/3/21	Arizona	82	15	19	34	26
Jonathan Castagna	18	6-1	183	Left	Toronto, Ont.	70th overall (2023)	St. Andrew's (PHC)	50	29	43	72	40
Logan Cooley	19	5-10	174	Left	Pittsburgh, Pa.	3rd overall (2022)	Minnesota (Big Ten)	39	22	38	60	42
Jean-Sebastien Dea	29	5-11	174	Right	Laval, Que.	Free Agent: signed 7/14/22	Tucson (AHL)	67	23	27	50	42
Curtis Douglas	23	6-9	242	Left	Oakville, Ont.	Trade: Tor 11/23/22	Toronto/Tucson (AHL)	63	8	7	15	149
John Farinacci	22	5-11	185	Right	Red Bank, N.J.	76th overall (2019)	Harvard (ECAC)	19	5	15	20	2
Conor Geekie	19	6-3	193	Left	Strathclair, Man.	11th overall (2022)	Winnipeg (WHL)	66	35	42	77	53
Barrett Hayton	23	6-1	207	Left	Peterborough, Ont.	5th overall (2018)	Arizona	82	19	24	43	42
Alexander Kerfoot	29	5-11	186	Left	Vancouver, B.C.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Toronto	82	10	22	32	30
Justin Kirkland	27	6-3	183	Left	Winnipeg, Man.	Free Agent: signed 7/15/23	San Diego (AHL)	32	9	9	18	16
Bryan Little	35	6-0	191	Right	Edmonton, Alta.	Trade: Wpg 3/21/22	Arizona			DNP		
Tanner Ludtke	18	6-0	185	Left	Lakeville, Minn.	81st overall (2023)	Lincoln (USHL)	57	32	34	66	32
Jack McBain	23	6-3	201	Left	Toronto, Ont.	Trade: Min 3/21/22	Arizona	82	12	14	26	64
Ryan McGregor	24	6-0	168	Left	Burlington, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 3/19/20	Tucson (AHL)	59	12	6	18	21
Liam O'Brien	29	6-1	213	Left	Halifax, N.S.	Free Agent: signed 7/28/21	Arizona	56	3	8	11	114
Anthony Romano	22	5-11	182	Right	Richmond Hill, Ont.	176th overall (2019)	Clarkson (ECAC)	19	9	6	15	8
Nick Schmaltz	27	6-0	181	Right	Madison, Wis.	Trade: Chi 11/25/18	Arizona	63	22	36	58	20
Nathan Smith	24	6-0	177	Right	Tampa, Fla.	Trade: Wpg 3/21/22	Tucson (AHL)	64	12	15	27	37
LEFT WINGERS	**AGE**	**HT.**	**WT.**	**SHOOTS**	**BORN**	**ACQUIRED**	**2022-23**	**GP**	**G**	**A**	**P**	**PIM**
Carson Bantle	21	6-4	194	Left	Onalaska, Wis.	142nd overall (2020)	Wisconsin (Big Ten)	35	9	7	16	14
Travis Barron	25	6-1	205	Left	Brampton, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Tucson (AHL)	50	7	10	17	98
Daniil But	18	6-5	203	Right	Yaroslavl, Rus.	12th overall (2023)	Loko Yaroslavl/Loko-76 Jr. (Rus.)	32	18	14	32	26
Michael Carcone	27	5-9	170	Left	Ajax, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/29/21	Tucson (AHL)	65	31	54	85	127
Lawson Crouse	26	6-4	215	Left	Mt. Brydges, Ont.	Trade: Fla 8/25/16	Arizona	77	24	21	45	35
Ilya Fedotov	20	6-0	176	Right	Saratov, Rus.	43rd overall (2021)	Niz. Novgorod/ Nizhnekamsk (KHL)	42	9	5	14	20
Milos Kelemen	24	6-2	210	Left	Zvolen, Svk.	Free Agent: signed 5/5/22	Tucson (AHL)	59	14	16	30	37
Liam Kirk	23	6-1	156	Left	Rotherham, Gbr.	189th overall (2018)	Jukurit (Fin.)	25	7	12	19	12
John Leonard	25	5-11	196	Left	Westwood, N.J.	Free Agent: signed 7/2/23	Milwaukee (AHL)	67	17	27	44	14
Sam Lipkin	20	6-2	192	Left	Philadelphia, Pa.	223rd overall (2021)	Quinnipiac (ECAC)	39	14	29	43	14
Julian Lutz	19	6-1	185	Left	Weingarten, Ger.	43rd overall (2022)	Munich (Ger.)	24	1	7	8	16
Matias Maccelli	22	5-11	176	Left	Turku, Fin.	98th overall (2019)	Arizona	64	11	38	49	18
Ben McCartney	22	6-0	182	Left	Portage la Prairie, Man.	204th overall (2020)	Tucson (AHL)	45	7	8	15	6
Noel Nordh	18	6-2	196	Left	Soderhamn, Swe.	72nd overall (2023)	Brynas Jr. (Swe.)	38	13	14	27	14
Zach Sanford	28	6-4	206	Left	Salem, Mass.	Free Agent: signed 7/14/23	Milwaukee (AHL)	45	12	16	28	51
Danil Savunov	22	5-10	147	Left	Sarov, Rus.	174th overall (2019)	SKA-Neva St. Pete. (Rus.2)	43	11	19	30	31
Jason Zucker	31	5-11	192	Left	Newport Beach, Calif.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Pittsburgh	78	27	21	48	47
RIGHT WINGERS	**AGE**	**HT.**	**WT.**	**SHOOTS**	**BORN**	**ACQUIRED**	**2022-23**	**GP**	**G**	**A**	**P**	**PIM**
Alexandr Darin	23	5-11	159	Right	Yaroslavl, Rus.	107th overall (2019)	Niz. Novgorod (KHL)	30	7	6	13	2
Josh Doan	21	6-1	183	Right	Scottsdale, Ariz.	37th overall (2021)	Arizona State (NCAA)	39	16	22	38	18
Elliot Ekefjard	21	6-4	216	Left	Vaxholm, Swe.	192nd overall (2020)	Bjorkloven (Swe.2)	37	4	1	5	6
Dylan Guenther	20	6-2	175	Right	Edmonton, Alta.	9th overall (2021)	Arizona	33	6	9	15	10
Jan Jenik	23	6-1	185	Left	Nymburk, Cze.	65th overall (2018)	Tucson (AHL)	30	7	16	23	50
Clayton Keller	25	5-10	178	Left	Chesterfield, Mo.	7th overall (2016)	Arizona	82	37	49	86	49
Miko Matikka	19	6-3	187	Right	Helsinki, Fin.	67th overall (2022)	Madison/Waterloo (USHL)	58	27	28	55	39
Vadim Moroz	19	6-2	185	Right	Minsk, Blr.	88th overall (2023)	Minsk (KHL)	39	5	9	14	14
Aku Raty	22	6-0	170	Right	Oulu, Fin.	151st overall (2019)	Ilves (Fin.)	53	18	24	42	10
Jakub Voracek	34	6-2	216	Left	Kladno, Cze.	Trade: Clb 3/2/23	Columbus	11	1	5	6	0
Adam Zlnka	19	6-0	173	Right	Zvolen, Svk.	204th overall (2022)	Sioux Falls (USHL)	56	8	16	24	18

BOSTON BRUINS

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BY **MICK COLAGEO**

THE PERENNIAL 50-WIN B'S won an NHL-record 65 games last season thanks to coach Jim Montgomery, goalie Linus Ullmark and several X-factors that became best-case scenarios. However, letting Florida rally from a 3-1 series deficit in the first round of the playoffs will haunt Boston's 1924 centennial.

David Pastrnak's franchise-record $11.25-million annual salary, plus deferred bonuses for Patrice Bergeron and David Krejci ($4.5 million), forced GM Don Sweeney to move Taylor Hall's $6-million cap hit. Sweeney's deadline rentals all went to market. A stripped-down playoff hopeful, Boston brings back a Jennings Trophy goaltending tandem and a defense corps featuring Charlie McAvoy, Hampus Lindholm and Brandon Carlo, but Bergeron retired and the Bruins were still waiting on a decision from Krejci well into the summer. Pavel Zacha was acquired to play center, and the B's hope 2022 second-round pick Matthew Poitras will surprise. Until then, Pastrnak, Jake DeBrusk and 35-year-old Brad Marchand must produce. Kevin Shattenkirk, a UFA retread, should settle the power play, and Morgan Geekie will get top-nine looks. Milan Lucic returns to replace Nick Foligno.

>OFFENSE

Fresh off a season with 13 game-winning goals and Boston's first 60-goal year since Phil Esposito scored 61 in 1974-75, Pastrnak (61 goals, 113 points) is the Bruins' superstar. His post-Krejci center will be Zacha (21 goals, 57 points), but Boston needs another top-six pivot so Charlie Coyle can lead the bottom six. Matching their 301-goal output of 2022-23 will require more from the

2022-23 NUMBERS

RECORD
65-12-5 (.823)

OVERTIME
7-2

SHOOTOUT
4-3

OVERALL
1st

OFFENSE
3.67 GPG (2nd)

DEFENSE
2.12 GAA (1st)

POWER PLAY
22.2% (12th)

PENALTY KILL
87.3% (1st)

CORSI FOR/60
57.51 (16th)

CORSI AGAINST/60
54.85 (9th)

ICE TIME LEAD (F)
D. Pastrnak (19:34)

ICE TIME LEAD (D)
H. Lindholm (23:11)

FAST FACTS

COACH
Jim Montgomery

GM
Don Sweeney

ARENA
TD Garden

CAPACITY
17,850

AHL AFFILIATE
Providence Bruins

ECHL AFFILIATE
Maine Mariners

PLAYOFF RECORD
32-27 (since 2019)

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ERIC BOLTE-USA TODAY SPORTS

defense in Montgomery's four-man attack, led last season by Lindholm (53 points) and McAvoy (52 points). The Bruins will lean on Marchand (21 goals and 67 points in 73 games after double-hip surgery) and DeBrusk (27 goals), whose second half suffered after he broke two bones making winning plays in the Winter Classic.

>DEFENSE

The Bruins' foundation for Stanley Cup contention is firmly based on their 'Big 3' D-men. McAvoy's stats aren't sexy enough to win the Norris Trophy, but few can match his two-way impact. Carlo's rangy defense fortifies the right side, and Lindholm is Boston's best left stick on the blueline since Zdeno Chara. Since a rusty Derek Forbort played ahead of Matt Grzelcyk in the playoffs, the retention of Grzelcyk's $3.86-million cap hit was a surprise, his excellent breakout game notwithstanding. Shattenkirk will help the power play, but Connor Clifton's feistiness will be missed after he signed in Buffalo as a UFA. It's make-or-break time for Jakub Zboril, the first of Boston's three straight first-round picks in its much-maligned 2015 draft.

>GOALTENDING

After Ullmark's late-season injury and chaotic playoff, pundits loudly recommended trading the Swede at his Vezina Trophy height – he had an NHL-best 40 wins, 1.89 GAA and .938 SP – and giving the crease to 24-year-old Jeremy Swayman (24-6-4, 2.27 GAA, .920 SP). Despite a severe loss of scoring depth, Sweeney doesn't see his tandem's 36-goal Jennings Trophy margin of victory as overkill, especially entering a season promising more youthful mistakes that will need forgiveness.

>SPECIAL TEAMS

When Boston's early-season dominance on the power play began to fade, the top unit saw McAvoy, Lindholm and Pastrnak on the point. That said, the most fundamental absence going forward will be Bergeron's at the bumper position. The puck will continue to funnel to Pastrnak for one-timers, but Shattenkirk and James van Riemsdyk were signed with the PP in mind. It's hard to imagine the PK without Bergeron, but Montgomery had already transitioned the heavier assignments to Coyle.

CUP ODDS

20/1

>INTANGIBLES

Just as Bergeron seamlessly took the mantle from Chara, Marchand is more than ready. Meanwhile, the disbanding of the 2022-23 dream team presents an opportunity to mold the roster. More speed is always welcome, but the Bruins failed in the minefield of playoff hockey. The B's need players who will hit defensemen like the Panthers hit theirs.

>ROOKIES

The Bruins desperately need a youthful surprise in camp. Right winger Fabian Lysell gets the hype, but Poitras is a pure center who's getting bigger and stronger. Johnny Beecher, Marc McLaughlin and Georgii Merkulov will also get looks up front.

>X-FACTOR

A lack of scoring depth could keep the Bruins on the playoff bubble, and if it bursts, the culprit will be the lack of a next-generation franchise center. For now, their young core is solid but needs more aggressive forwards. It's time for the forgotten farm system to produce.

>THE BRASS

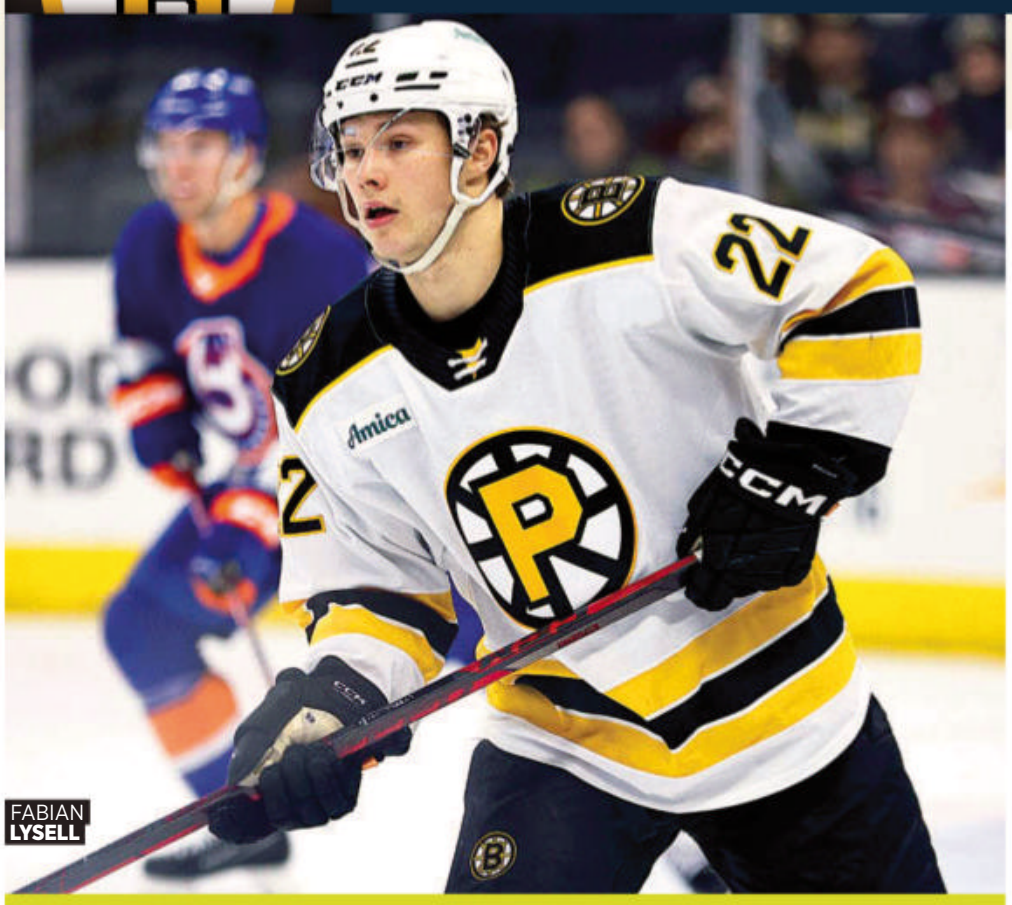
As the B's centennial nears, ownership is happy with management's performance. Team president Cam Neely wants to win, and a teardown is off the table. Sweeney has done well to identify and obtain slow-developing prospects such as Zacha, but spotty drafting leaves the B's without badly needed homegrown solutions.

DEPTH CHART | 2023-24

LEFT WING	CENTER	RIGHT WING
1. Brad Marchand	1. Pavel Zacha	1. David Pastrnak
2. James van Riemsdyk	2. Charlie Coyle	2. Jake DeBrusk
3. Jakub Lauko	3. Trent Frederic	3. Morgan Geekie
4. Milan Lucic	4. Patrick Brown	4. Marc McLaughlin
5. Georgii Merkulov	5. Jesper Boqvist	5. Oskar Steen

DEFENSE		GOALIE
1. Charlie McAvoy	6. Kevin Shattenkirk	1. Linus Ullmark
2. Hampus Lindholm	7. Jakub Zboril	2. Jeremy Swayman
3. Brandon Carlo	8. Ian Mitchell	3. Brandon Bussi
4. Derek Forbort	9. Alec Regula	INJURED
5. Matt Grzelcyk	10. Mason Lohrei	INDICATES NEW ARRIVAL

KEY DEPARTURES & UNSIGNED UFAs Patrice Bergeron, C; David Krejci, C; Taylor Hall, LW; Dmitry Orlov, D; Tyler Bertuzzi, LW; Tomas Nosek, LW; Garnet Hathaway, RW; Connor Clifton, D; Nick Foligno, LW; Mike Reilly, D



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FUTURE WATCH

WITH NO PICKS IN the top 90 and no rush to fill NHL roster spots, Boston went long-term at the 2023 draft, taking a flyer on center Christopher Pelosi, followed by fellow pivots Beckett Hendrickson (Darby's son) and Ryan Walsh. The Bruins have gone this route before and hit paydirt with Mason Lohrei, but don't expect to see these kids for years. Fabian Lysell is probably the closest to NHL duty. Georgii Merkulov, signed in 2022 as a college free agent, is a long-shot name to watch.

TOP 10 PROSPECTS

1. Fabian Lysell, RW, 20
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Providence (AHL)
Whip-smart winger arrives in space and picks his passes well. Now, he'll fight for NHL minutes.
Acquired 21st overall, 2021 **NHL** '23-24

2. Matthew Poitras, C, 19
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Guelph (OHL)
Shifty skater and safe with the puck on his stick. Natural playmaker makes inch-perfect passes.
Acquired 54th overall, 2022 **NHL** '24-25

3. Mason Lohrei, D, 22
Age 22 **2022-23 Team** Ohio State (Big Ten)
Good with puck and strong in the corners. Taste of the AHL prepared him for what's to come.
Acquired 58th overall, 2020 **NHL** '24-25

4. Riley Duran, C, 21
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** Providence (HE)
Massachusetts native stood out at WJC and as NCAA sophomore. A blue-collar player.
Acquired 182nd overall, 2020 **NHL** '25-26

5. Johnny Beecher, C, 22
Age 22 **2022-23 Team** Providence (AHL)
Good but not great AHL rookie season. Proficient at using his size and strength to make plays.
Acquired 30th overall, 2019 **NHL** '24-25

6. Jakub Lauko, C, 23
Age 23 **2022-23 Team** Providence (AHL)
An AHL-NHL tweener season saw Lauko prove he's ready for big-league checking-line duty.
Acquired 77th overall, 2018 **NHL** '23-24

7. Brett Harrison, C, 20
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Windsor (OHL)
What he lacks in elite skill, he makes up for with passion. Steadily improved in major junior.
Acquired 85th overall, 2021 **NHL** '25-26

8. Dans Locmelis, C, 19
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Lulea Jr. (Swe.)
Excellent junior output in Sweden but move to UMass brings new challenges for two-way center.
Acquired 119th overall, 2022 **NHL** '26-27

9. Trevor Kuntar, C, 22
Age 22 **2022-23 Team** Boston College (HE)
Built like a linebacker with a cannon of a shot. Modest numbers in NCAA, but he has raw ability.
Acquired 89th overall, 2020 **NHL** '25-26

10. Christopher Pelosi, C, 18
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Sioux Falls (USHL)
Never-say-die commitment to winning battles for loose pucks makes him a forechecking whirlwind.
Acquired 92nd overall, 2023 **NHL** '27-28

SCHEDULE | 2023-24

Wed, Oct 11	vs Chicago	7:30 PM
Sat, Oct 14	vs Nashville	7:00 PM
Thu, Oct 19	@ San Jose	10:30 PM
Sat, Oct 21	@ Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Sun, Oct 22	@ Anaheim	8:30 PM
Tue, Oct 24	@ Chicago	8:30 PM
Thu, Oct 26	vs Anaheim	7:00 PM
Sat, Oct 28	vs Detroit	7:00 PM
Mon, Oct 30	vs Florida	7:00 PM
Thu, Nov 2	vs Toronto	7:00 PM
Sat, Nov 4	@ Detroit	7:00 PM
Mon, Nov 6	@ Dallas	8:00 PM
Thu, Nov 9	vs NY Islanders	7:00 PM
Sat, Nov 11	@ Montreal	7:00 PM
Tue, Nov 14	@ Buffalo	7:00 PM
Sat, Nov 18	vs Montreal	7:00 PM
Mon, Nov 20	@ Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Wed, Nov 22	@ Florida	7:00 PM
Fri, Nov 24	vs Detroit	1:00 PM
Sat, Nov 25	@ NY Rangers	1:00 PM
Mon, Nov 27	@ Columbus	7:00 PM
Thu, Nov 30	vs San Jose	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 2	@ Toronto	7:00 PM
Sun, Dec 3	vs Columbus	7:00 PM
Thu, Dec 7	vs Buffalo	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 9	vs Arizona	1:00 PM
Wed, Dec 13	@ New Jersey	7:30 PM
Fri, Dec 15	@ NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Sat, Dec 16	vs NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Tue, Dec 19	vs Minnesota	7:00 PM
Fri, Dec 22	@ Winnipeg	8:00 PM
Sat, Dec 23	@ Minnesota	7:00 PM
Wed, Dec 27	@ Buffalo	7:30 PM
Sat, Dec 30	vs New Jersey	7:00 PM
Sun, Dec 31	@ Detroit	5:00 PM
Tue, Jan 2	@ Columbus	7:00 PM
Thu, Jan 4	vs Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Sat, Jan 6	vs Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Mon, Jan 8	@ Colorado	9:00 PM
Tue, Jan 9	@ Arizona	9:00 PM
Thu, Jan 11	@ Vegas	10:00 PM
Sat, Jan 13	@ St. Louis	8:00 PM
Mon, Jan 15	vs New Jersey	1:00 PM
Thu, Jan 18	vs Colorado	7:00 PM
Sat, Jan 20	vs Montreal	7:00 PM
Mon, Jan 22	vs Winnipeg	7:00 PM
Wed, Jan 24	vs Carolina	7:30 PM
Thu, Jan 25	@ Ottawa	7:00 PM
Sat, Jan 27	@ Philadelphia	12:30 PM
Tue, Feb 6	vs Calgary	7:00 PM
Thu, Feb 8	vs Vancouver	7:00 PM
Sat, Feb 10	vs Washington	3:30 PM
Tue, Feb 13	vs Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Thu, Feb 15	vs Seattle	7:00 PM
Sat, Feb 17	vs Los Angeles	5:00 PM
Mon, Feb 19	vs Dallas	1:00 PM
Wed, Feb 21	@ Edmonton	10:00 PM
Thu, Feb 22	@ Calgary	9:00 PM
Sat, Feb 24	@ Vancouver	7:00 PM
Mon, Feb 26	@ Seattle	10:00 PM
Thu, Feb 29	vs Vegas	7:00 PM
Sat, Mar 2	@ NY Islanders	3:00 PM
Mon, Mar 4	@ Toronto	7:00 PM
Tue, Mar 5	vs Edmonton	7:00 PM
Thu, Mar 7	vs Toronto	7:00 PM
Sat, Mar 9	vs Pittsburgh	3:00 PM
Mon, Mar 11	vs St. Louis	7:00 PM
Thu, Mar 14	@ Montreal	7:00 PM
Sat, Mar 16	vs Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Tue, Mar 19	vs Ottawa	7:00 PM
Thu, Mar 21	vs NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Sat, Mar 23	@ Philadelphia	1:00 PM
Tue, Mar 26	@ Florida	7:00 PM
Wed, Mar 27	@ Tampa Bay	7:30 PM
Sat, Mar 30	@ Washington	7:00 PM
Tue, Apr 2	@ Nashville	8:00 PM
Thu, Apr 4	@ Carolina	7:00 PM
Sat, Apr 6	vs Florida	3:30 PM
Tue, Apr 9	vs Carolina	7:00 PM
Sat, Apr 13	@ Pittsburgh	8:00 PM
Mon, Apr 15	@ Washington	7:00 PM
Tue, Apr 16	vs Ottawa	7:00 PM

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ORGANIZATIONAL ROSTER

BOSTON BRUINS

GOALIES	AGE	HT.	WT.	CATCHES	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	W-L-OT	GAA	SP	
Brandon Bussi	25	6-4	226	Right	Sound Beach, N.Y.	Free Agent: signed 3/30/22	Providence (AHL)	32	22-5-4	2.40	.924	
Michael DiPietro	24	6-0	200	Left	Windsor, Ont.	Trade: Van 10/27/22	Maine (ECHL)	29	19-9-0	2.61	.918	
Reid Dyck	19	6-3	190	Left	Winkler, Man.	183rd overall (2022)	Swift Current (WHL)	40	15-23-1	3.62	.887	
Kyle Keyser	24	6-2	183	Left	Coral Springs, Fla.	Free Agent: signed 10/3/17	Providence (AHL)	24	13-6-2	2.79	.900	
Philip Svedeback	21	6-3	191	Left	Stockholm, Swe.	117th overall (2021)	Providence (HE)	34	14-11-7	2.18	.909	
Jeremy Swayman	24	6-2	194	Left	Anchorage, Alaska	111th overall (2017)	Boston	37	24-6-4	2.27	.920	
Linus Ullmark	30	6-5	212	Left	Lugnvik, Swe.	Free Agent: signed 7/28/21	Boston	49	40-6-1	1.89	.938	
DEFENSEMEN	**AGE**	**HT.**	**WT.**	**SHOOTS**	**BORN**	**ACQUIRED**	**2022-23**	**GP**	**G**	**A**	**P**	**PIM**
Frederic Brunet	20	6-3	186	Left	Gatineau, Que.	132nd overall (2022)	Rimouski/Victoriaville (QMJHL)	66	16	57	73	28
Roman Bychkov	22	5-11	161	Left	Yaroslavl, Rus.	154th overall (2019)	Yaroslavl (KHL)	17	0	2	2	4
Michael Callahan	24	6-2	200	Left	Franklin, Mass.	Trade: Ari 2/22/22	Providence (AHL)	55	1	7	8	34
Brandon Carlo	26	6-6	218	Right	Colorado Springs, Colo.	37th overall (2015)	Boston	75	3	13	16	38
Jackson Edward	19	6-3	188	Left	Newmarket, Ont.	200th overall (2022)	London (OHL)	65	5	20	25	110
Derek Forbort	31	6-4	208	Left	Duluth, Minn.	Free Agent: signed 7/28/21	Boston	54	5	7	12	23
Ty Gallagher	20	6-0	188	Right	Clarkston, Mich.	217th overall (2021)	Boston University (HE)	40	3	18	21	24
Matt Grzelcyk	29	5-10	176	Left	Charlestown, Mass.	85th overall (2012)	Boston	75	4	22	26	28
Kristian Kostadinski	18	6-5	213	Left	Gothenburg, Swe.	220th overall (2023)	Frolunda Jr. (Swe.)	43	2	8	10	69
Mason Langenbrunner	21	6-2	166	Right	Dallas, Texas	151st overall (2020)	Harvard (ECAC)	33	1	0	1	22
Hampus Lindholm	29	6-4	215	Left	Helsingborg, Swe.	Trade: Ana 3/19/22	Boston	80	10	43	53	56
Mason Lohrei	22	6-4	195	Left	Baton Rouge, La.	58th overall (2020)	Ohio State (Big Ten)	40	4	28	32	26
Ryan Mast	20	6-5	213	Right	Bloomfield Hills, Mich.	181st overall (2021)	Sarnia (OHL)	51	8	22	30	30
Charlie McAvoy	25	6-1	209	Right	Long Beach, N.Y.	14th overall (2016)	Boston	67	7	45	52	54
Dustyn McFaul	23	6-2	185	Left	Waterdown, Ont.	181st overall (2018)	Clarkson (ECAC)	30	0	9	9	33
Ian Mitchell	24	5-11	193	Right	St. Albert, Alta.	Trade: Chi 6/26/23	Chicago	35	1	7	8	8
Jonathan Myrenberg	20	6-2	185	Right	Taby, Swe.	Trade: Van 10/27/22	Mora (Swe.2)	49	4	8	12	14
Alec Regula	23	6-4	208	Right	West Bloomfield, Mich.	Trade: Chi 6/26/23	Rockford (AHL)	51	5	16	21	69
Dan Renouf	29	6-1	198	Left	Pickering, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Providence (AHL)	54	1	10	11	57
Kevin Shattenkirk	34	6-0	212	Right	New Rochelle, N.Y.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Anaheim	75	4	23	27	56
Reilly Walsh	24	6-0	185	Right	Framingham, Mass.	Trade: NJ 6/26/23	Utica (AHL)	71	9	32	41	40
Parker Wotherspoon	26	6-1	190	Left	Surrey, B.C.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Bridgeport (AHL)	27	1	11	12	27
Jakub Zboril	26	6-1	201	Left	Brno, Cze.	13th overall (2015)	Boston	22	1	3	4	6
CENTERS	**AGE**	**HT.**	**WT.**	**SHOOTS**	**BORN**	**ACQUIRED**	**2022-23**	**GP**	**G**	**A**	**P**	**PIM**
Johnny Beecher	22	6-3	215	Left	Elmira, N.Y.	30th overall (2019)	Providence (AHL)	61	9	14	23	38
Jesper Boqvist	24	6-0	180	Left	Falun, Swe.	Free Agent: signed 7/12/23	New Jersey	70	10	11	21	2
Patrick Brown	31	6-1	210	Right	Bloomfield Hills, Mich.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Philadelphia/Ottawa	61	4	8	12	44
Charlie Coyle	31	6-3	223	Right	East Weymouth, Mass.	Trade: Min 2/20/19	Boston	82	16	29	45	30
Riley Duran	21	6-1	174	Right	Boston, Mass.	182nd overall (2020)	Providence (HE)	29	8	12	20	33
Trent Frederic	25	6-3	214	Left	St. Louis, Mo.	29th overall (2016)	Boston	79	17	14	31	57
Andre Gasseau	20	6-4	205	Left	Garden Grove, Calif.	213th overall (2021)	Boston College (HE)	36	10	19	29	14
Morgan Geekie	25	6-3	200	Right	Strathclair, Man.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Seattle	69	9	19	28	24
Curtis Hall	23	6-3	212	Right	Princeton, N.J.	119th overall (2018)	Providence (AHL)	37	1	3	4	10
Brett Harrison	20	6-2	182	Left	London, Ont.	85th overall (2021)	Oshawa/Windsor (OHL)	57	34	35	69	16
Beckett Hendrickson	18	6-2	174	Left	Minnetonka, Minn.	124th overall (2023)	USA U18 (NTDP)	52	13	21	34	20
Trevor Kuntar	22	6-0	197	Left	Buffalo, N.Y.	89th overall (2020)	Boston College (HE)	34	13	16	29	36
Jakub Lauko	23	6-0	196	Left	Prague, Cze.	77th overall (2018)	Providence (AHL)	35	10	7	17	58
Dans Locmelis	19	6-0	170	Left	Jelgava, Lat.	119th overall (2022)	Lulea Jr. (Swe.)	44	25	34	59	22
Marc McLaughlin	24	6-0	203	Right	North Billerica, Mass.	Free Agent: signed 3/15/22	Providence (AHL)	66	13	17	30	45
Jayson Megna	33	6-1	195	Right	Fort Lauderdale, Fla.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Colorado/Anaheim	55	2	6	8	6
Georgii Merkulov	22	5-11	179	Left	Ryazan, Rus.	Free Agent: signed 4/9/22	Providence (AHL)	67	24	31	55	26
Christopher Pelosi	18	6-1	181	Left	Sewell, N.J.	92nd overall (2023)	Sioux Falls (USHL)	43	13	6	19	20
Matthew Poitras	19	5-11	176	Right	Ajax, Ont.	54th overall (2022)	Guelph (OHL)	63	16	79	95	40
Anthony Richard	26	5-11	183	Left	Trois-Rivieres, Que.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Laval (AHL)	60	30	37	67	46
Cole Spicer	19	5-10	175	Left	Grand Forks, N.D.	117th overall (2022)	Minn.-Duluth (NCHC)	32	3	3	6	2
Oskar Steen	25	5-10	193	Right	Karlstad, Swe.	165th overall (2016)	Providence (AHL)	64	14	17	31	34
Andrei Svetlakov	27	6-0	202	Left	Moscow, Rus.	Trade: Min 2/23/23	CSKA Moscow (KHL)	68	11	16	27	32
Ryan Walsh	20	6-0	180	Right	Rochester, N.Y.	188th overall (2023)	Cedar Rapids (USHL)	61	30	49	79	29
Pavel Zacha	26	6-4	199	Left	Brno, Cze.	Trade: NJ 7/13/22	Boston	82	21	36	57	16
LEFT WINGERS	**AGE**	**HT.**	**WT.**	**SHOOTS**	**BORN**	**ACQUIRED**	**2022-23**	**GP**	**G**	**A**	**P**	**PIM**
Jake DeBrusk	26	6-0	197	Left	Edmonton, Alta.	14th overall (2015)	Boston	64	27	23	50	16
A.J. Greer	26	6-3	208	Left	Joliette, Que.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Boston	61	5	7	12	114
Oskar Jellvik	20	5-11	175	Left	Stockholm, Swe.	149th overall (2021)	Boston College (HE)	34	4	13	17	6
Milan Lucic	35	6-3	240	Left	Vancouver, B.C.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Calgary	77	7	12	19	43
Brad Marchand	35	5-9	176	Left	Halifax, N.S.	71st overall (2006)	Boston	73	21	46	67	74
Quinn Olson	22	5-11	170	Left	Calgary, Alta.	92nd overall (2019)	Minn.-Duluth (NCHC)	37	7	17	24	32
Jake Schmaltz	22	6-1	167	Left	McFarland, Wis.	192nd overall (2019)	North Dakota (NCHC)	34	5	7	12	2
Luke Toporowski	22	5-11	183	Left	Davenport, Iowa	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Providence (AHL)	47	15	14	29	33
James van Riemsdyk	34	6-3	208	Left	Middletown, N.J.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Philadelphia	61	12	17	29	28
RIGHT WINGERS	**AGE**	**HT.**	**WT.**	**SHOOTS**	**BORN**	**ACQUIRED**	**2022-23**	**GP**	**G**	**A**	**P**	**PIM**
Fabian Lysell	20	5-11	176	Right	Gothenburg, Swe.	21st overall (2021)	Providence (AHL)	54	14	23	37	46
Casper Nassen	19	6-4	205	Right	Norrtalje, Swe.	214th overall (2023)	Vasteras Jr. (Swe.)	48	23	17	40	35
David Pastrnak	27	6-1	195	Right	Havirov, Cze.	25th overall (2014)	Boston	82	61	52	113	38

BUFFALO SABRES

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BY **BILL HOPPE**

HAVING PUT A DECADE OF futility behind them, the expectation in Buffalo is for the Sabres to end their NHL-record 12-year post-season drought. In falling one win shy of the playoffs last season, they showcased more growth and proved they can be a contender in the crowded Atlantic Division.

The Sabres' 91-point finish was their best since 2010-11, their last playoff campaign. Barely two years ago, they hit rock bottom, winning just 15 of 56 games. But GM Kevyn Adams has rebuilt the Sabres into one of the league's youngest and fastest clubs. Last season, they scored 293 goals, the NHL's third-highest total. Word has spread that the Sabres are building something special.

Adams and coach Don Granato provide much-needed stability. They've helped transform the team's image and make Buffalo a desirable destination. When free agency opened, Connor Clifton and Erik Johnson, two defensemen with plenty of suitors, quickly chose the Sabres.

>OFFENSE

Led by 47-goal, 94-point offensive catalyst Tage Thompson, the Sabres enjoyed their most prolific scoring season since 2006-07. Four players scored at least 31 goals. Four registered at least 73 points. The line of Thompson with wingers Jeff Skinner and Alex Tuch established itself as one of the NHL's most lethal. Rasmus Dahlin cemented his status as one of the game's elite bluelines while recording 73 points. Granato's aggressive style plays to his lineup's strengths, and he has unlocked the potential of a slew of youngsters. The average age of the Sabres' top five scorers is a hair over 25. Three are 25 or

2022-23 NUMBERS

RECORD
42-33-7 (.555)

OVERTIME
9-4

SHOOTOUT
3-3

OVERALL
20th

OFFENSE
3.57 GPG (3rd)

DEFENSE
3.62 GAA (26th)

POWER PLAY
23.4% (9th)

PENALTY KILL
73.0% (28th)

CORSI FOR/60
57.02 (18th)

CORSI AGAINST/60
54.00 (6th)

ICE TIME LEAD (F)
A. Tuch (19:09)

ICE TIME LEAD (D)
R. Dahlin (25:48)

FAST FACTS

COACH
Don Granato

GM
Kevyn Adams

ARENA
KeyBank Center

CAPACITY
19,070

AHL AFFILIATE
Rochester Americans

ECHL AFFILIATE
Jacksonville Icemen

PLAYOFF RECORD
0-0 (since 2019)

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TAGE THOMPSON

younger. Most of their top talents are entering their prime, so a 300-goal season is a real possibility.

>DEFENSE

In Dahlin, Owen Power and Mattias Samuelsson, the Sabres have three workhorse defensemen. Dahlin possesses the talent to win a Norris Trophy someday. Ditto for Power, who earned more even-strength ice time (20:44 per game) than any rookie since the NHL began tracking the statistic in 1997-98. Samuelsson, while not as flashy as the other two, has developed into the Sabres' top shutdown D-man beside Dahlin. Buffalo was a terrific 33-18-4 with Samuelsson in the lineup and 9-15-3 when he was injured. The additions of Clifton and Johnson, both of whom shoot right, fill some notable needs. Clifton adds more physicality, while the 35-year-old Johnson offers much-needed experience. Last year, no one on Buffalo's blueline had played more than five NHL seasons.

>GOALTENDING

After Craig Anderson's retirement, there are still three goalies on the roster: Devon Levi, Ukko-Pekka Luukkonen and Eric Comrie. All three had a run as the starter last season, with Luukkonen playing a team-high 33 games as a rookie. When Levi turned pro in late March, he grabbed the No. 1 job, starting seven critical games. The Sabres could utilize the neophytes as their tandem. Only Levi can be sent to the minors without waivers.

>SPECIAL TEAMS

The Sabres have built up so much depth they boast two strong power-play units. The top unit, with Dahlin quarterbacking and Thompson unleashing wicked one-timers from the circle, might be as talented as any in the league. The Sabres converted 23.4 percent of their chances last season, which ranked ninth overall. They were so deep up front that winger Victor Olofsson, who has one of the league's quickest releases, often skated on the second unit. Their penalty killing, which ranked a lowly 28th, will improve when the team receives more timely saves.

>INTANGIBLES

The Sabres have grown into a tight-knit group over the past two years. Captain Kyle Okposo wants everyone to be themselves, and players often talk about how they can't wait to get to the rink or hang out away from it. There are no cliques. A new leadership group has emerged since the Sabres traded Jack Eichel in 2021, and when Okposo retires, they'll have a strong crop of candidates to be their next captain.

CUP ODDS

25/1

>ROOKIES

A year ago, wingers JJ Peterka and Jack Quinn graduated to Buffalo after dynamic rookie seasons with AHL Rochester. This year, center Jiri Kulich, who scored 24 goals as a rookie with the Americans – one of the best seasons by an 18-year-old in AHL history – might be ready for full-time NHL duty.

>X-FACTOR

The Sabres can score plenty of goals, but they have trouble preventing them. They allowed 297 last season, the league's seventh-highest total. Their wonky defense sometimes hung the goalies out to dry. Still, they need more saves. If Levi can fortify the net, Buffalo has a chance to go a long way.

>THE BRASS

Owners Terry and Kim Pegula have a special relationship with Adams, who earned their trust working in other roles before they named him GM. He has been given the freedom to build the Sabres the way he sees fit. Adams' impact can be felt all over the organization.

DEPTH CHART | 2023-24

LEFT WING	CENTER	RIGHT WING
1. Jeff Skinner	1. Tage Thompson	1. Alex Tuch
2. JJ Peterka	2. Dylan Cozens	2. Jack Quinn
3. Jordan Greenway	3. Casey Mittelstadt	3. Victor Olofsson
4. Zemgus Girgensons	4. Peyton Krebs	4. Kyle Okposo
5. Tyson Jost	5. Matt Savoie	5. Jiri Kulich

DEFENSE		GOALIE
1. Rasmus Dahlin	6. Ilya Lyubushkin	1. Devon Levi
2. Owen Power	7. Henri Jokiharju	2. Ukko-Pekka Luukkonen
3. Mattias Samuelsson	8. Riley Stillman	3. Eric Comrie
4. Connor Clifton	9. Kale Clague	INJURED
5. Erik Johnson	10. Ryan Johnson	INDICATES NEW ARRIVAL

KEY DEPARTURES & UNSIGNED UFAs Craig Anderson, G; Vinnie Hinostroza, C; Lawrence Pilut, D

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FUTURE WATCH

SKILL HAS BEEN HIGH on the list for Buffalo in recent drafts, particularly at the top end. After nabbing WHL Winnipeg's Matt Savoie in 2022's first round, they took his teammate in Zach Benson this year. Both are smaller but dynamic and competitive. With pipeline grads Owen Power, JJ Peterka and Peyton Krebs in the NHL (and Jiri Kulich coming), the Sabres have time to develop the next wave. Russians Aleksandr Kisakov (already here) and Prokhor Poltapov show potential.

TOP 10 PROSPECTS

1. Zach Benson, LW
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Winnipeg (WHL)
Some worry about size, but natural goal-scorers aren't easy to find, and Benson has that gift.
Acquired 13th overall, 2023 **NHL** '25-26

2. Jiri Kulich, C
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Rochester (AHL)
Near point-per-game AHL playoff performance is a sure sign of what's to come. Remarkable skater.
Acquired 28th overall, 2022 **NHL** '23-24

3. Matt Savoie, C
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Winnipeg (WHL)
The consistency is as impressive as the output. A cerebral player who doesn't take a shift off.
Acquired 9th overall, 2022 **NHL** '23-24

4. Noah Ostlund, C
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Djurgarden (Swe.)
Perhaps he'll never become an offensive force, but two-way acumen puts him ahead of many peers.
Acquired 16th overall, 2022 **NHL** '25-26

5. Isak Rosen, RW
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Rochester (AHL)
Took a step forward upon moving to AHL from Sweden. He's become a more complete player.
Acquired 14th overall, 2021 **NHL** '24-25

6. Anton Wahlberg, C
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Malmo Jr. (Swe.)
Checks the speed, size and skating boxes, plus he thinks the game well. Needs time to develop.
Acquired 39th overall, 2023 **NHL** '26-27

7. Devon Levi, G
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** Northeastern (HE)
Massive expectations for two-time NCAA goalie of the year. He'll be thrown into the deep end.
Acquired Trade (Fla), July 24, 2021 **NHL** '23-24

8. Ryan Johnson, D
Age 22 **2022-23 Team** Minnesota (Big Ten)
New-school defender uses smarts and skating, not size and physicality, to win puck battles.
Acquired 31st overall, 2019 **NHL** '24-25

9. Maxim Strbak, D
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Sioux Falls (USHL)
Playing an up-tempo, creative game has its benefits, but defensive errors can be the result.
Acquired 45th overall, 2023 **NHL** '27-28

10. Prokhor Poltapov, RW
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** CSKA Moscow (KHL)
Rapid pace to his game and loves to take the puck to the net. Questions about his ceiling.
Acquired 33rd overall, 2021 **NHL** '25-26

SCHEDULE | 2023-24

Thu, Oct 12	vs NY Rangers	7:00 PM	Sat, Jan 13	vs Vancouver	4:00 PM
Sat, Oct 14	@ NY Islanders	7:30 PM	Mon, Jan 15	vs San Jose	1:00 PM
Tue, Oct 17	vs Tampa Bay	7:00 PM	Wed, Jan 17	vs Chicago	7:30 PM
Thu, Oct 19	vs Calgary	7:00 PM	Tue, Nov 7	@ Carolina	7:00 PM
Sat, Oct 21	vs NY Islanders	7:00 PM	Sat, Jan 20	vs Tampa Bay	12:30 PM
Mon, Oct 23	vs Montreal	7:00 PM	Tue, Jan 23	@ Anaheim	10:00 PM
Tue, Oct 24	@ Ottawa	6:45 PM	Wed, Jan 24	@ Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Fri, Oct 27	@ New Jersey	7:00 PM	Sat, Jan 27	@ San Jose	4:00 PM
Sun, Oct 29	vs Colorado	7:00 PM	Tue, Feb 6	vs Dallas	7:00 PM
Wed, Nov 1	@ Philadelphia	7:00 PM	Sat, Feb 10	vs St. Louis	1:00 PM
Fri, Nov 3	vs Philadelphia	7:00 PM	Tue, Feb 13	vs Los Angeles	7:00 PM
Sat, Nov 4	@ Toronto	7:00 PM	Thu, Feb 15	vs Florida	7:00 PM
Fri, Nov 10	vs Minnesota	7:00 PM	Sat, Feb 17	@ Minnesota	5:00 PM
Sat, Nov 11	@ Pittsburgh	7:00 PM	Mon, Feb 19	vs Anaheim	12:30 PM
Tue, Nov 14	vs Boston	7:00 PM	Wed, Feb 21	@ Montreal	7:00 PM
Fri, Nov 17	@ Winnipeg	8:00 PM	Fri, Feb 23	@ Columbus	7:00 PM
Sun, Nov 19	@ Chicago	7:00 PM	Sun, Feb 25	vs Carolina	6:00 PM
Wed, Nov 22	@ Washington	7:00 PM	Tue, Feb 27	@ Florida	7:00 PM
Fri, Nov 24	vs Pittsburgh	6:00 PM	Thu, Feb 29	@ Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Sat, Nov 25	@ New Jersey	7:00 PM	Sat, Mar 2	vs Vegas	7:00 PM
Mon, Nov 27	@ NY Rangers	7:00 PM	Sun, Mar 3	vs Winnipeg	7:00 PM
Thu, Nov 30	@ St. Louis	8:00 PM	Wed, Mar 6	@ Toronto	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 2	@ Carolina	7:00 PM	Thu, Mar 7	@ Nashville	8:00 PM
Sun, Dec 3	vs Nashville	7:00 PM	Sat, Mar 9	vs Edmonton	12:30 PM
Tue, Dec 5	vs Detroit	7:00 PM	Tue, Mar 12	vs Detroit	7:00 PM
Thu, Dec 7	@ Boston	7:00 PM	Thu, Mar 14	vs NY Islanders	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 9	vs Montreal	7:00 PM	Sat, Mar 16	@ Detroit	12:30 PM
Mon, Dec 11	vs Arizona	7:00 PM	Mon, Mar 18	@ Seattle	10:00 PM
Wed, Dec 13	@ Colorado	10:00 PM	Tue, Mar 19	@ Vancouver	10:00 PM
Fri, Dec 15	@ Vegas	10:00 PM	Thu, Mar 21	@ Edmonton	9:00 PM
Sat, Dec 16	@ Arizona	9:00 PM	Sun, Mar 24	@ Calgary	9:00 PM
Tue, Dec 19	vs Columbus	7:00 PM	Wed, Mar 27	vs Ottawa	7:00 PM
Thu, Dec 21	vs Toronto	7:00 PM	Fri, Mar 29	vs New Jersey	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 23	@ NY Rangers	7:30 PM	Sat, Mar 30	vs Toronto	7:00 PM
Wed, Dec 27	vs Boston	7:30 PM	Tue, Apr 2	vs Washington	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 30	vs Columbus	5:00 PM	Fri, Apr 5	vs Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Sun, Dec 31	@ Ottawa	6:00 PM	Sun, Apr 7	@ Detroit	1:00 PM
Thu, Jan 4	@ Montreal	7:00 PM	Tue, Apr 9	@ Dallas	8:00 PM
Sat, Jan 6	@ Pittsburgh	7:00 PM	Thu, Apr 11	vs Washington	7:00 PM
Tue, Jan 9	vs Seattle	7:00 PM	Sat, Apr 13	@ Florida	5:00 PM
Thu, Jan 11	vs Ottawa	7:00 PM	Mon, Apr 15	@ Tampa Bay	7:00 PM

BENSON: RUSTY BARTON/HHOF IMAGES; SKINNER: DAN HAMILTON-USA TODAY SPORTS

ORGANIZATIONAL ROSTER

GOALIES	AGE	HT.	WT.	CATCHES	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	W-L-OT	GAA	SP
Eric Comrie	28	6-1	183	Left	Edmonton, Alta.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Buffalo	19	9-9-1	3.67	.886
Devin Cooley	26	6-5	192	Left	Los Gatos, Calif.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Milwaukee (AHL)	26	15-8-2	2.93	.909
Topias Leinonen	19	6-4	214	Left	Jyvaskyla, Fin.	41st overall (2022)	JYP Jr. (Fin.)	23	12-10-0	2.72	.885
Devon Levi	21	6-0	184	Left	Dollard-des-Ormeaux, Que.	Trade: Fla 7/24/21	Northeastern (HE)	34	17-12-5	2.24	.933
Ukko-Pekka Luukkonen	24	6-5	217	Left	Espoo, Fin.	54th overall (2017)	Buffalo	33	17-11-4	3.61	.892
Scott Ratzlaff	18	6-1	175	Left	Irma, Alta.	141st overall (2023)	Seattle (WHL)	34	25-8-0	2.15	.918
Dustin Tokarski	34	6-0	198	Left	Watson, Sask.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	WB/Scranton (AHL)	36	12-16-7	2.69	.910

DEFENSEMEN	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Jacob Bryson	25	5-9	176	Left	London, Ont.	99th overall (2017)	Buffalo	59	1	8	9	8
Joseph Cecconi	26	6-3	210	Right	Youngstown, N.Y.	Trade: Dal 12/15/22	Texas/Rochester (AHL)	53	3	7	10	30
Kale Clague	25	6-0	190	Left	Regina, Sask.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Buffalo	33	0	4	4	24
Connor Clifton	28	5-11	190	Right	Matawan, N.J.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Boston	78	5	18	23	60
Rasmus Dahlin	23	6-3	202	Left	Lidkoping, Swe.	1st overall (2018)	Buffalo	78	15	58	73	92
Jeremy Davies	26	5-11	180	Left	St-Anne-de-Bellevue, Que.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Rochester (AHL)	66	11	12	23	90
Erik Johnson	35	6-4	225	Right	Bloomington, Minn.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Colorado	63	0	8	8	12
Ryan Johnson	22	6-0	170	Left	Newport Beach, Calif.	31st overall (2019)	Minnesota (Big Ten)	40	4	14	18	8
Henri Jokiharju	24	6-0	200	Right	Oulu, Fin.	Trade: Chi 7/9/19	Buffalo	60	3	10	13	30
Sean Keohane	18	6-4	182	Left	Boston, Mass.	173rd overall (2023)	Dexter Southfield (USHS)	32	4	12	16	N/A
Vsevolod Komarov	19	6-2	182	Right	Chelyabinsk, Rus.	134th overall (2022)	Quebec (QMJHL)	62	12	27	39	60
Mats Lindgren	19	5-10	173	Left	Vancouver, B.C.	106th overall (2022)	Red Deer (WHL)	63	11	23	34	23
Albert Lyckasen	22	5-11	187	Right	Balsta, Swe.	193rd overall (2020)	AIK (Swe.2)	39	3	6	9	20
Ilya Lyubushkin	29	6-2	200	Right	Moscow, Rus.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Buffalo	68	2	12	14	38
Gavin McCarthy	18	6-2	185	Right	Troy, N.Y.	86th overall (2023)	Muskegon (USHL)	42	8	19	27	88
Nikita Novikov	20	6-3	196	Left	Moscow, Rus.	188th overall (2021)	Dynamo Moscow (KHL)	62	2	3	5	14
Philip Nyberg	26	6-4	203	Right	Karlskrona, Swe.	129th overall (2016)	Lindloven (Swe.3)	19	0	2	2	8
Norwin Panocha	18	6-1	178	Left	Bayreuth, Ger.	205th overall (2023)	Berlin Jr. (Ger.)	34	6	16	22	12
Owen Power	20	6-6	218	Left	Mississauga, Ont.	1st overall (2021)	Buffalo	79	4	31	35	24
Mattias Samuelsson	23	6-4	231	Left	Philadelphia, Pa.	32nd overall (2018)	Buffalo	55	2	8	10	20
Riley Stillman	25	6-1	196	Left	Peterborough, Ont.	Trade: Van 2/27/23	Vancouver/Buffalo	50	1	7	8	36
Maxim Strbak	18	6-2	205	Right	Kosice, Svk.	45th overall (2023)	Sioux Falls (USHL)	46	5	13	18	51

CENTERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Matteo Costantini	21	6-0	173	Left	St. Catharines, Ont.	131st overall (2020)	North Dakota (NCHC)	25	2	1	3	4
Dylan Cozens	22	6-3	195	Right	Whitehorse, Yukon	7th overall (2019)	Buffalo	81	31	37	68	41
Vasily Glotov	26	5-10	179	Left	Barnaul, Rus.	190th overall (2016)	Sochi/St. Petersburg (KHL)	62	7	18	25	20
Tyson Jost	25	5-11	187	Left	St. Albert, Alta.	Waivers: Min 11/19/22	Minnesota/Buffalo	71	7	18	25	34
Gustav Karlsson	19	6-1	165	Left	Guldsmedshyttan, Swe.	187th overall (2022)	Orebro Jr. (Swe.)	43	14	19	33	14
Jakub Konecny	21	5-10	150	Left	Brno, Cze.	216th overall (2020)	Prague (Cze.)	45	5	6	11	6
Tyson Kozak	20	5-11	173	Left	Souris, Man.	193rd overall (2021)	Rochester (AHL)	55	5	5	10	40
Peyton Krebs	22	6-0	187	Left	Calgary, Alta.	Trade: Veg 11/4/21	Buffalo	74	9	17	26	50
Jiri Kulich	19	5-11	172	Left	Kadan, Cze.	28th overall (2022)	Rochester (AHL)	62	24	22	46	18
Casey Mittelstadt	24	6-1	195	Left	Eden Prairie, Minn.	8th overall (2017)	Buffalo	82	15	44	59	22
Noah Ostlund	19	5-11	163	Left	Stockholm, Swe.	16th overall (2022)	Djurgarden (Swe.2)	37	8	18	26	12
Justin Richards	25	5-11	190	Right	Orlando, Fla.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Cleveland (AHL)	61	10	29	39	54
Arttu Ruotsalainen	25	5-9	187	Left	Oulu, Fin.	Free Agent: signed 5/8/19	Kloten (Sui.)	52	18	24	42	36
Matt Savoie	19	5-9	179	Right	St. Albert, Alta.	9th overall (2022)	Winnipeg (WHL)	62	38	57	95	26
Linus Sjodin	20	6-0	167	Left	Angelholm, Swe.	211th overall (2022)	Rogle (Swe.)	52	1	6	7	4
Tage Thompson	25	6-6	220	Right	Phoenix, Ariz.	Trade: 7/1/18	Buffalo	78	47	47	94	39
William von Barnekow	20	6-2	158	Left	Malmo, Swe.	161st overall (2021)	Malmo (Swe.)	37	4	2	6	0
Anton Wahlberg	18	6-3	194	Left	Malmo, Swe.	39th overall (2023)	Malmo Jr. (Swe.)	32	14	13	27	53

LEFT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Zach Benson	18	5-9	163	Left	Chilliwack, B.C.	13th overall (2023)	Winnipeg (WHL)	60	36	62	98	49
Brandon Biro	25	5-11	170	Left	Sherwood Park, Alta.	Free Agent: signed 3/18/20	Rochester (AHL)	49	16	35	51	12
Filip Cederqvist	23	6-3	196	Left	Skara, Swe.	143rd overall (2019)	Rochester (AHL)	55	9	11	20	31
Zemgus Girgensons	29	6-2	200	Left	Riga, Lat.	14th overall (2012)	Buffalo	80	10	8	18	14
Jordan Greenway	26	6-6	231	Left	Canton, N.Y.	Trade: Min 3/3/23	Minnesota/Buffalo	62	6	5	11	26
Aleksandr Kisakov	20	5-10	150	Left	Solikamsk, Rus.	53rd overall (2021)	Rochester (AHL)	48	6	2	8	24
Viljami Marjala	20	6-0	178	Left	Oulu, Fin.	159th overall (2021)	TPS Jr. (Fin.)	32	18	33	51	14
Ethan Miedema	18	6-4	203	Left	Fort St. John, B.C.	109th overall (2023)	Windsor/Kingston (OHL)	68	20	32	52	42
Brett Murray	25	6-5	228	Left	Bolton, Ont.	99th overall (2016)	Rochester (AHL)	71	23	26	49	46
Viktor Neuchev	19	6-2	165	Left	Chelyabinsk, Rus.	74th overall (2022)	Yekaterinburg (KHL)	57	4	8	12	2
Victor Olofsson	28	5-11	181	Left	Ornskoldsvik, Swe.	181st overall (2014)	Buffalo	75	28	12	40	4
Prokhor Poltapov	20	6-0	176	Right	St. Petersburg, Rus.	33rd overall (2021)	CSKA Moscow (KHL)	56	5	5	10	37
Jeff Skinner	31	5-11	197	Left	Toronto, Ont.	Trade: Car 8/2/18	Buffalo	79	35	47	82	39
Linus Weissbach	25	5-9	177	Left	Gothenburg, Swe.	192nd overall (2017)	Rochester (AHL)	69	20	27	47	63

RIGHT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Aaron Huglen	22	6-0	167	Right	Roseau, Minn.	102nd overall (2019)	Minnesota (Big Ten)	38	7	10	17	18
Olivier Nadeau	20	6-2	204	Right	Lac-Etchemin, Que.	97th overall (2021)	Gatineau (QMJHL)	34	22	24	46	29
Kyle Okposo	35	6-0	218	Right	St. Paul, Minn.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/16	Buffalo	75	11	17	28	34
JJ Peterka	21	6-0	189	Left	Munich, Ger.	34th overall (2020)	Buffalo	77	12	20	32	26
Jack Quinn	22	6-1	185	Right	Ottawa, Ont.	8th overall (2020)	Buffalo	75	14	23	37	15
Joel Ratkovic Berndtsson	19	6-0	178	Left	Kungalv, Swe.	202nd overall (2022)	Frolunda Jr. (Swe.)	34	20	10	30	36
Jake Richard	19	6-1	171	Right	Jacksonville, Fla.	170th overall (2022)	Muskegon/Tri-City (USHL)	57	31	31	62	73
Isak Rosen	20	5-11	156	Left	Solna, Swe.	14th overall (2021)	Rochester (AHL)	66	14	23	37	14
Lukas Rousek	24	5-11	171	Left	Ostrov Nad Ohri, Cze.	160th overall (2019)	Rochester (AHL)	70	16	40	56	24
Stiven Sardarian	20	6-1	156	Left	St. Petersburg, Rus.	88th overall (2021)	New Hampshire (HE)	29	2	5	7	8
Alex Tuch	27	6-4	219	Right	Syracuse, Ariz.	Trade: Veg 11/4/21	Buffalo	74	36	43	79	20

CALGARY FLAMES

JACOB MARKSTROM

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BY **STEVE MACFARLANE**

WHAT A YEAR. FROM the surprise departures of Johnny Gaudreau and Matthew Tkachuk in the summer of 2022, to the disappointment of a lost season the club thought it could salvage with the additions of Jonathan Huberdeau, MacKenzie Weegar and Nazem Kadri, things really went sideways in Calgary.

Disagreements between the coach and GM culminated in the latter – then-GM Brad Treliving – walking away from a contract offer, and the former – ex-coach Darryl Sutter – getting fired following players' exit interviews. Things haven't gotten much better. The Flames moved out one disgruntled player in Tyler Toffoli, getting younger with the addition of 25-year-old Yegor Sharangovich, but still were faced with questions surrounding key pending 2024 UFAs Noah Hanifin, Elias Lindholm and Mikael Backlund, leaving them handcuffed in free agency and facing plenty of uncertainty heading into this season.

>OFFENSE

The leader of Calgary's offense last season now plays for New Jersey. Toffoli was the only notable member of last year's team to have a career season, but he wanted out after the Sutter firing and was traded prior to the draft. New GM Craig Conroy, however, has made offense a priority. He brought in a potential 20-goal scorer in the Toffoli deal, with the hopes that a new start will lead to consistency from Sharangovich. More importantly, management has surrounded its highest-paid player, Huberdeau, with a coaching staff geared more toward flash and freedom on the north side of the red line. Conroy and new coach Ryan Huska brought in Dan Lambert and for-

2022-23 NUMBERS

RECORD
38-27-17 (.567)

OVERTIME
5-12

SHOOTOUT
2-5

OVERALL
16th

OFFENSE
3.15 GPG (19th)

DEFENSE
3.01 GAA (13th)

POWER PLAY
19.8% (19th)

PENALTY KILL
82.6% (5th)

CORSI FOR/60
66.59 (2nd)

CORSI AGAINST/60
49.44 (2nd)

ICE TIME LEAD (F)
E. Lindholm (18:39)

ICE TIME LEAD (D)
R. Andersson (24:05)

FAST FACTS

COACH
Ryan Huska

GM
Craig Conroy

ARENA
Scotiabank Saddledome

CAPACITY
19,289

AHL AFFILIATE
Calgary Wranglers

ECHL AFFILIATE
Rapid City Rush

PLAYOFF RECORD
11-16 (since 2019)

MARKSTROM: SERGEI BELSKI-USA TODAY SPORTS

JONATHAN HUBERDEAU

mer Flames playmaker Marc Savard as assistants. The franchise will bank heavily on a rebound season from Huberdeau, who had a record-breaking slip from 115 points in 2021-22 to 55 in his first campaign with the Flames.

>DEFENSE

If there's a strength on this team, even envisioning a future without Hanifin, it's the back end. A deep, talented group should offer both offensive production and defensive stability in front of the goaltenders. Oliver Kylington is set to return after missing last season in the NHL/NHLPA assistance program. If Hanifin is moved, Kylington, a speedy lefty, could suit up beside former partner Chris Tanev on the second pairing, with MacKenzie Weegar on a potent top unit alongside the mobile Rasmus Andersson. Nikita Zadorov and UFA signing Jordan Oesterle could comprise the bottom pairing, with Dennis Gilbert as a depth option.

>GOALTENDING

Jacob Markstrom was terrible for most of last season. And outside of one strong stretch, so was backup Dan Vladar. In fact, the organization's best goalie was AHL MVP Dustin Wolf. He may be ready to jump to the NHL, but with Wolf being waiver-exempt, Conroy could choose to bring the young stopper in for spot starts and stick with the current tandem – at least until the trade deadline. A rebound season from Markstrom, who was a 2021-22 Vezina Trophy finalist, could help keep the Flames competitive. Considering Calgary lost so many one-goal games, including a record number in OT, you could argue that even mediocre goaltending would've lifted them to the playoffs.

>SPECIAL TEAMS

Savard has been a whiz at improving his teams' power-play performances at both the NHL and OHL level – and any improvement will be welcome after Calgary's abysmal performance on the man advantage. Simply put, nothing gelled for Huberdeau, former 40-goal scorer Lindholm and the rest of the group. On the other side of the ice, the penalty kill was solid. It might take a hit if Hanifin isn't on it beside Andersson, but the 26-year-old Andersson should take another leap forward defensively and find a nice balance at both ends of the ice.

CUP ODDS

22/1

>INTANGIBLES

Team chemistry was off last year, and it spiralled as the season went on. With an emphasis on injecting youthful exuberance and restoring some of the fun factor, there's hope that this year's group will be a better mix.

>ROOKIES

Jakob Pelletier, 22, is still eligible for the Calder after playing 24 NHL games last season, and he should see more action this year. Right winger Matt Coronato, who made his NHL debut in the season finale after leaving Harvard to sign an entry-level deal, could also earn a spot out of training camp.

>X-FACTOR

A lot needs to happen for the Flames to rebound from one of the most frustrating and disappointing seasons in recent memory. There are a lot of areas for improvement, but the team doesn't change its fortunes without Huberdeau bouncing back and taking a leadership role in his second year in Calgary.

>THE BRASS

The Flames' front office and coaching staff have been overhauled, with new faces in key positions. The moves are meant to create a more positive environment after negativity seeped throughout the franchise last season.

DEPTH CHART | 2023-24

LEFT WING	CENTER	RIGHT WING
1. Jonathan Huberdeau	1. Elias Lindholm	1. Andrew Mangiapane
2. Dillon Dube	2. Nazem Kadri	2. Yegor Sharangovich
3. Blake Coleman	3. Mikael Backlund	3. Matt Coronato
4. Jakob Pelletier	4. Adam Ruzicka	4. Walker Duehr
5. Dryden Hunt	5. Kevin Rooney	5. Adam Klapka

DEFENSE		GOALIE
1. Rasmus Andersson	6. Nikita Zadorov	1. Jacob Markstrom
2. MacKenzie Weegar	7. Jordan Oesterle	2. Dan Vladar
3. Noah Hanifin	8. Dennis Gilbert	3. Dustin Wolf
4. Chris Tanev	9. Nick DeSimone	INJURED
5. Oliver Kylington	10. Jeremie Poirier	INDICATES NEW ARRIVAL

KEY DEPARTURES & UNSIGNED UFAs Tyler Toffoli, RW; Michael Stone, D; Milan Lucic, LW; Trevor Lewis, C; Nick Ritchie, LW

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FUTURE WATCH

NEW GM CRAIG CONROY'S first draft was much more bountiful than 2022, when the Flames only had three picks, and 2023 first-rounder Samuel Honzek is on a steep ascent. Second-rounder Etienne Morin was another hot pick. The future in net is already secured between Dustin Wolf and UConn's big Arsenii Sergeev. In the here and now, Matt Coronato is the name to keep in mind, while Jakob Pelletier will surely get more opportunity under new Flames coach Ryan Huska.

TOP 10 PROSPECTS

1. Matt Coronato, RW
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Harvard (ECAC)
His offensive skill set is NHL-ready, and he's got a gift for finding twine. He skates well, too.
Acquired 13th overall, 2021 **NHL** '23-24

2. Dustin Wolf, G
Age 22 **2022-23 Team** Calgary (AHL)
His AHL numbers are drool-worthy. He will soon be the man in the Calgary net for years to come.
Acquired 214th overall, 2019 **NHL** '23-24

3. Samuel Honzek, LW
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Vancouver (WHL)
Versatility will be his calling card. He's big and skilled enough to do the grunt work on any unit.
Acquired 16th overall, 2023 **NHL** '24-25

4. Jakob Pelletier, LW
Age 22 **2022-23 Team** Calgary (AHL)
Consecutive years of great AHL output put him in line for NHL duty. He has the shot and speed.
Acquired 26th overall, 2019 **NHL** '23-24

5. Connor Zary, C
Age 22 **2022-23 Team** Calgary (AHL)
Minor breakout in sophomore AHL campaign for the crafty pivot. Skating, pace are coming along.
Acquired 24th overall, 2020 **NHL** '24-25

6. Etienne Morin, D
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Moncton (QMJHL)
Plays with snarl, but his puck-moving ability ensures he's not a one-dimensional defender.
Acquired 48th overall, 2023 **NHL** '26-27

7. Jeremie Poirier, D
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** Calgary (AHL)
He craves offense, and his all-around game took a step forward in impressive rookie AHL year.
Acquired 72nd overall, 2020 **NHL** '24-25

8. Topi Ronni, C
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Tappara (Fin.)
His frame and style of play scream future grind-liner. Most important is staying healthy.
Acquired 59th overall, 2022 **NHL** '26-27

9. Aydar Suniev, LW
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Penticton (BCHL)
His draft stock exploded after 90-point season. Talented playmaker will develop further in NCAA.
Acquired 80th overall, 2023 **NHL** '27-28

10. Lucas Ciona, LW
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Seattle (WHL)
He won't wow with any one ability, but he's a leader who plays with his heart on his sleeve.
Acquired 173rd overall, 2021 **NHL** '25-26

SCHEDULE | 2023-24

Wed, Oct 11	vs Winnipeg	10:00 PM	Thu, Jan 11	@ Arizona	9:00 PM
Sat, Oct 14	@ Pittsburgh	7:00 PM	Sat, Jan 13	@ Vegas	10:00 PM
Mon, Oct 16	@ Washington	7:00 PM	Tue, Jan 16	vs Arizona	9:00 PM
Thu, Oct 19	@ Buffalo	7:00 PM	Thu, Jan 18	vs Toronto	9:00 PM
Fri, Oct 20	@ Columbus	7:00 PM	Sat, Jan 20	vs Edmonton	10:00 PM
Sun, Oct 22	@ Detroit	5:00 PM	Tue, Jan 23	vs St. Louis	9:00 PM
Tue, Oct 24	vs NY Rangers	9:45 PM	Thu, Jan 25	vs Columbus	9:00 PM
Thu, Oct 26	vs St. Louis	9:00 PM	Sat, Jan 27	vs Chicago	10:00 PM
Sun, Oct 29	@ Edmonton*	7:00 PM	Tue, Feb 6	@ Boston	7:00 PM
Wed, Nov 1	vs Dallas	8:30 PM	Thu, Feb 8	@ New Jersey	7:00 PM
Sat, Nov 4	@ Seattle	10:00 PM	Sat, Feb 10	@ NY Islanders	1:00 PM
Tue, Nov 7	vs Nashville	9:00 PM	Mon, Feb 12	@ NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Fri, Nov 10	@ Toronto	7:00 PM	Thu, Feb 15	vs San Jose	9:00 PM
Sat, Nov 11	@ Ottawa	7:00 PM	Sat, Feb 17	vs Detroit	4:00 PM
Tue, Nov 14	@ Montreal	7:00 PM	Mon, Feb 19	vs Winnipeg	4:00 PM
Thu, Nov 16	vs Vancouver	9:00 PM	Thu, Feb 22	vs Boston	9:00 PM
Sat, Nov 18	vs NY Islanders	7:00 PM	Sat, Feb 24	@ Edmonton	10:00 PM
Mon, Nov 20	@ Seattle	10:00 PM	Tue, Feb 27	vs Los Angeles	9:00 PM
Wed, Nov 22	@ Nashville	9:00 PM	Sat, Mar 2	vs Pittsburgh	10:00 PM
Fri, Nov 24	@ Dallas	8:00 PM	Mon, Mar 4	vs Seattle	9:30 PM
Sat, Nov 25	@ Colorado	10:00 PM	Thu, Mar 7	@ Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Mon, Nov 27	vs Vegas	9:30 PM	Sat, Mar 9	@ Florida	4:00 PM
Thu, Nov 30	vs Dallas	9:00 PM	Sun, Mar 10	@ Carolina	5:00 PM
Sat, Dec 2	vs Vancouver	10:00 PM	Tue, Mar 12	vs Colorado	9:00 PM
Tue, Dec 5	vs Minnesota	9:00 PM	Thu, Mar 14	vs Vegas	9:00 PM
Thu, Dec 7	vs Carolina	9:00 PM	Sat, Mar 16	vs Montreal	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 9	vs New Jersey	4:00 PM	Mon, Mar 18	vs Washington	8:30 PM
Mon, Dec 11	@ Colorado	9:30 PM	Sat, Mar 23	@ Vancouver	10:00 PM
Tue, Dec 12	@ Vegas	10:00 PM	Sun, Mar 24	vs Buffalo	9:00 PM
Thu, Dec 14	@ Minnesota	8:00 PM	Tue, Mar 26	@ Chicago	8:30 PM
Sat, Dec 16	vs Tampa Bay	10:00 PM	Thu, Mar 28	@ St. Louis	8:00 PM
Mon, Dec 18	vs Florida	9:30 PM	Sat, Mar 30	vs Los Angeles	10:00 PM
Thu, Dec 21	@ Anaheim	10:00 PM	Tue, Apr 2	vs Anaheim	9:00 PM
Sat, Dec 23	@ Los Angeles	10:00 PM	Thu, Apr 4	@ Winnipeg	8:00 PM
Wed, Dec 27	vs Seattle	9:30 PM	Sat, Apr 6	vs Edmonton	10:00 PM
Sun, Dec 31	vs Philadelphia	8:00 PM	Tue, Apr 9	@ San Jose	10:30 PM
Tue, Jan 2	@ Minnesota	8:00 PM	Thu, Apr 11	@ Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Thu, Jan 4	@ Nashville	8:00 PM	Fri, Apr 12	@ Anaheim	10:00 PM
Sat, Jan 6	@ Philadelphia	1:00 PM	Sun, Apr 14	vs Arizona	8:00 PM
Sun, Jan 7	@ Chicago	3:00 PM	Tue, Apr 16	@ Vancouver	10:00 PM
Tue, Jan 9	vs Ottawa	9:00 PM	Thu, Apr 18	vs San Jose	9:00 PM

*Heritage Classic

CORONATO: GIL TALBOT/HARVARD ATHLETICS; ANDERSSON: DAVID KIROUAC-USA TODAY SPORTS

ORGANIZATIONAL ROSTER

GOALIES	AGE	HT.	WT.	CATCHES	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	W-L-OT	GAA	SP
Daniil Chechelev	22	6-3	187	Right	Khabarovsk, Rus.	96th overall (2020)	Rapid City (ECHL)	42	18-16-3	3.58	.894
Oscar Dansk	29	6-3	204	Left	Stockholm, Swe.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Calgary (AHL)	17	8-6-2	2.75	.905
Jacob Markstrom	33	6-6	207	Left	Gavle, Swe.	Free Agent: signed 10/9/20	Calgary	59	23-21-12	2.92	.892
Arsenii Sergeev	20	6-3	192	Left	Yaroslavl, Rus.	205th overall (2021)	Connecticut (HE)	19	11-6-1	2.61	.912
Dan Vladar	26	6-5	209	Left	Prague, Cze.	Trade: Bos 7/28/21	Calgary	27	14-6-5	2.91	.895
Dustin Wolf	22	6-0	166	Left	Gilroy, Calif.	214th overall (2019)	Calgary (AHL)	55	42-10-2	2.09	.932
Yegor Yegorov	18	6-3	183	Left	Moscow, Rus.	176th overall (2023)	Dynamo Moscow Jr. (Rus.)	15	9-4-0	2.29	.915

DEFENSEMEN	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Rasmus Andersson	26	6-1	202	Right	Malmo, Swe.	53rd overall (2015)	Calgary	79	11	38	49	26
Jake Boltmann	21	6-1	188	Right	Edina, Minn.	80th overall (2020)	Notre Dame (Big Ten)	37	1	4	5	48
Nick DeSimone	28	6-2	185	Right	East Amherst, N.Y.	Free Agent: signed 7/28/21	Calgary (AHL)	65	8	38	46	38
Dennis Gilbert	26	6-2	216	Left	Buffalo, N.Y.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Calgary (AHL)	26	2	3	5	41
Noah Hanifin	26	6-3	207	Left	Boston, Mass.	Trade: Car 6/23/18	Calgary	81	7	31	38	33
Axel Hurtig	18	6-4	202	Left	Hogas, Swe.	208th overall (2023)	Rogle Jr. (Swe.)	34	2	6	8	14
Yan Kuznetsov	21	6-4	209	Left	Murmansk, Rus.	50th overall (2020)	Calgary (AHL)	63	5	14	19	30
Oliver Kylington	26	6-0	183	Left	Stockholm, Swe.	60th overall (2015)	Calgary			DNP		
Carl-Johan Lerby	26	5-11	180	Left	Trelleborg, Swe.	Free Agent: signed 5/7/19	Malmo (Swe.)	35	2	11	13	10
Brady Lyle	24	6-3	211	Right	North Bay, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/3/23	Springfield (AHL)	51	7	24	31	44
Etienne Morin	18	6-0	180	Left	Salaberry-de-Valleyfield, Que.	48th overall (2023)	Moncton (QMJHL)	67	21	51	72	50
Jordan Oesterle	31	6-0	187	Left	Dearborn Heights, Mich.	Free Agent: signed 7/2/23	Detroit	52	2	9	11	19
Jeremie Poirier	21	6-1	196	Left	Valleyfield, Que.	72nd overall (2020)	Calgary (AHL)	69	9	32	41	52
Colton Poolman	27	6-0	200	Left	East Grand Forks, Minn.	Free Agent: signed 3/20/20	Calgary (AHL)	64	2	12	14	8
Rushan Rafikov	28	6-1	185	Left	Saratov, Rus.	187th overall (2013)	Yaroslavl (KHL)	66	6	16	22	16
Ilya Solovyov	23	6-3	208	Left	Mogilev, Blr.	205th overall (2020)	Calgary (AHL)	68	4	14	18	38
Chris Tanev	33	6-2	193	Right	Toronto, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 10/9/20	Calgary	65	1	12	13	21
MacKenzie Weegar	29	6-0	206	Right	Ottawa, Ont.	Trade: Fla 7/22/22	Calgary	81	4	27	31	43
Nikita Zadorov	28	6-6	248	Left	Moscow, Rus.	Trade: Chi 7/28/21	Calgary	82	14	7	21	80

CENTERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Mikael Backlund	34	6-0	206	Left	Vasteras, Swe.	24th overall (2007)	Calgary	82	19	37	56	36
Clark Bishop	27	6-1	197	Left	St. John's, Nfld.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Calgary (AHL)	64	11	12	23	58
Blake Coleman	31	5-11	199	Left	Plano, Texas	Free Agent: signed 7/28/21	Calgary	82	18	20	38	54
Dillon Dube	25	5-11	185	Left	Golden, B.C.	56th overall (2016)	Calgary	82	18	27	45	47
Jonathan Huberdeau	30	6-1	200	Left	St-Jerome, Que.	Trade: Fla 7/22/22	Calgary	79	15	40	55	36
Ben Jones	24	6-0	187	Left	Waterloo, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/16/22	Calgary (AHL)	71	17	37	54	63
Nazem Kadri	32	6-0	185	Left	London, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 8/18/22	Calgary	82	24	32	56	56
Rory Kerins	21	5-10	175	Left	Caledon, Ont.	174th overall (2020)	Rapid City (ECHL)	38	17	20	37	8
Elias Lindholm	28	6-1	202	Right	Boden, Swe.	Trade: Car 6/23/18	Calgary	80	22	42	64	14
Jaden Lipinski	18	6-4	204	Right	Scottsdale, Ariz.	112th overall (2023)	Vancouver (WHL)	66	19	32	51	55
Cade Littler	19	6-3	197	Right	East Wenatchee, Wash.	219th overall (2022)	Wenatchee (BCHL)	51	29	39	68	28
Ilya Nikolaev	22	6-0	190	Left	Yaroslavl, Rus.	88th overall (2019)	Rapid City (ECHL)	40	13	20	33	31
Joshua Nodler	22	5-11	194	Right	Royal Oak, Mich.	150th overall (2019)	UMass (HE)	27	2	3	5	8
Mathias-Emilio Pettersen	23	5-10	170	Left	Manglerud, Nor.	167th overall (2018)	Calgary (AHL)	61	19	25	44	35
Martin Pospisil	23	6-2	173	Left	Zvolen, Svk.	105th overall (2018)	Calgary (AHL)	20	4	6	10	24
Topi Ronni	19	6-1	179	Left	Hausjarvi, Fin.	59th overall (2022)	Tappara (Fin.)	22	2	3	5	2
Kevin Rooney	30	6-2	190	Left	Canton, Mass.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Calgary (AHL)	51	5	12	17	28
Adam Ruzicka	24	6-4	215	Left	Bratislava, Svk.	109th overall (2017)	Calgary	44	6	14	20	8
Yegor Sharangovich	25	6-2	196	Left	Minsk, Blr.	Trade: NJ 6/27/23	New Jersey	75	13	17	30	16
Connor Zary	22	6-0	178	Left	Saskatoon, Sask.	24th overall (2020)	Calgary (AHL)	72	21	37	58	63

LEFT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Parker Bell	20	6-4	192	Left	Estevan, Sask.	155th overall (2022)	Tri-City (WHL)	55	25	39	64	65
Lucas Ciona	20	6-3	210	Left	Edmonton, Alta.	173rd overall (2021)	Seattle (WHL)	63	28	47	75	85
Samuel Honzek	18	6-4	186	Left	Trencin, Svk.	16th overall (2023)	Vancouver (WHL)	43	23	33	56	16
Dryden Hunt	27	6-0	193	Left	Cranbrook, B.C.	Trade: Tor 3/3/23	NYR/Colorado/Calgary	37	3	0	3	24
Pavel Karnaukhov	26	6-3	206	Left	Minsk, Blr.	136th overall (2015)	CSKA Moscow (KHL)	60	14	15	29	45
Demetrios Koumontzis	23	5-10	183	Left	Pittsburgh, Pa.	108th overall (2018)	Arizona State (NCAA)	37	7	11	18	29
Andrew Mangiapane	27	5-10	184	Left	Toronto, Ont.	166th overall (2015)	Calgary	82	17	26	43	40
Jakob Pelletier	22	5-9	170	Left	Quebec, Que.	26th overall (2019)	Calgary (AHL)	35	16	21	37	24
William Stromgren	20	6-3	175	Left	Ornskoldsvik, Swe.	45th overall (2021)	Brynas (Swe.)	45	3	5	8	8
Aydar Suniev	18	6-2	198	Left	Kazan, Rus.	80th overall (2023)	Penticton (BCHL)	50	45	45	90	44

RIGHT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Matt Coronato	20	5-10	183	Right	Greenlawn, N.Y.	13th overall (2021)	Harvard (ECAC)	34	20	16	36	14
Walker Duehr	25	6-2	210	Right	Sioux Falls, S.D.	Free Agent: signed 4/11/21	Calgary (AHL)	41	15	11	26	36
Adam Klapka	23	6-8	235	Right	Prague, Cze.	Free Agent: signed 5/16/22	Calgary (AHL)	60	13	12	25	80
Cole Schwindt	22	6-2	182	Right	Kitchener, Ont.	Trade: Fla 7/22/22	Calgary (AHL)	70	14	18	32	29
Eetu Tuulola	25	6-2	224	Right	Hameenlinna, Fin.	156th overall (2016)	Ilves (Fin.)	54	5	9	14	89

CAROLINA HURRICANES

ANDREI SVECHNIKOV

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BY **LUKE DECOCK**

AFTER ONE OF THE strangest sweeps possible in the Eastern Conference final – four losses by one goal each, including one in a single overtime and one in quadruple overtime – Carolina went into the off-season undeterred and with a clear mandate: run it back.

Goalies Frederik Andersen and Antti Raanta were both re-signed. Captain Jordan Staal signed a four-year deal. One of the league's best D-corps managed to get even better with the UFA signings of Dmitry Orlov and the re-addition of Tony DeAngelo. And the Hurricanes added some much-needed sandpaper on the wings to what was the NHL's second-best regular-season team, with free agents Michael Bunting and Brendan Lemieux. Carolina is clearly a Stanley Cup favorite.

>OFFENSE

It's hard to match the Hurricanes when it comes to shot volume. Two years in a row, however, they've failed to convert the plethora of chances they create in the playoff series where they made their exit. That was slightly more understandable this time around, with the team missing the injured Andrei Svechnikov and Max Pacioretty, but it was no less frustrating. Svechnikov should be ready for the opener after tearing his ACL late in a slightly disappointing fifth season. He's a natural goal-scorer capable of fireworks, and the Canes need him to make an impact. Bunting is expected to help in the finishing department as well. Sebastian Aho continues to develop into an elite two-way center. Continued improvement from Seth Jarvis and Jesperi Kotkaniemi would help diversify the offense, while there's some turnover on the fourth line with the exits of veterans Paul Stastny and Derek Stepan.

2022-23 NUMBERS

RECORD
52-21-9 (.689)

OVERTIME
9-6

SHOOTOUT
4-3

OVERALL
2nd

OFFENSE
3.20 GPG (15th)

DEFENSE
2.56 GAA (2nd)

POWER PLAY
19.8% (20th)

PENALTY KILL
84.4% (2nd)

CORSI FOR/60
67.8 (1st)

CORSI AGAINST/60
44.49 (1st)

ICE TIME LEAD (F)
S. Aho (19:30)

ICE TIME LEAD (D)
B. Burns (23:13)

FAST FACTS

COACH
Rod Brind'Amour

GM
Don Waddell

ARENA
PNC Arena

CAPACITY
18,680

AHL AFFILIATE
None

ECHL AFFILIATE
Norfolk Admirals

PLAYOFF RECORD
32-31 (since 2019)

SVECHNIKOV: DAN HAMILTON-USA TODAY SPORTS

AHO: SERGEI BELSKI-USA TODAY SPORTS

>DEFENSE

There may not be a slam-dunk Norris Trophy candidate in the group, but there also may not be a team in the NHL that can match the Hurricanes for quality depth on defense – and that was before they brought in Orlov, an all-around upgrade, and DeAngelo, who rejoins the Canes after spending last season in Philadelphia. Jaccob Slavin remains one of the NHL's most stalwart defenders, and any of the top five – Slavin, veteran Brent Burns, Brett Pesce, Brady Skjei and Orlov – could slot on any team's top pairing. Jalen Chatfield's emergence on the third pairing was a pleasant surprise, and he didn't look out of place when asked to play up. With Carolina's riches on the blueline, the team could move a defenseman to address a need elsewhere. Staal, who turns 35 in September, continues to provide Selke Trophy-worthy defense with linemates Jesper Fast and Jordan Martinook, a shutdown checking line relied upon heavily by coach Rod Brind'Amour.

>GOALTENDING

Andersen and Raanta shared the crease in both the regular season and the playoffs. Both were unrestricted free agents who checked the market before opting to return to Carolina. Neither appears capable of playing 60-plus games at this point in their careers, but they've proven to be an effective tandem sharing the workload – and both stoppers won key post-season games for the Hurricanes. Goalie-of-the-future Pyotr Kochetkov was impressive – with a 12-7-4 record, 2.44 goals-against average and a .909 save percentage – when asked to step in due to injuries, and he again figures to bounce back and forth to the AHL as needed.

>SPECIAL TEAMS

The power play struggled to a ranking of 20th in the NHL despite an initial bump from Burns' arrival. With the skill the Canes have up front, the PP should be a strength, not a weakness. The penalty kill, however, *is* a massive strength, one of the best in the NHL several years running, not only stingy with chances but a threat to go the other way at any time. Slavin and the 'D' are big parts of that, along with a mix of steady and opportunistic forwards who often prove disruptive.

CUP ODDS

9/1

>INTANGIBLES

The Canes got pushed around at times in the playoffs, especially by the Islanders and Panthers, and all the new arrivals have some grit to their game. That's not a coincidence. There was a glaring need to get meaner without sacrificing the skill and speed that makes them so hard to play against. Staal is the unquestioned leader, with Aho clearly the captain-in-waiting.

>ROOKIES

Kochetkov will get some starts, but there isn't really anyone lined up to claim a full-time spot, and Carolina's best prospects are still a year or two away. Center Vasily Ponomarev, 21, will likely be the first forward on call from the minors.

>X-FACTOR

There's very little mystery about the Hurricanes. They're a Cup contender that makes up in depth what they might lack in top-end talent. It's likely the success of their season will again come down to how well they convert the scoring chances they're so good at generating.

>THE BRASS

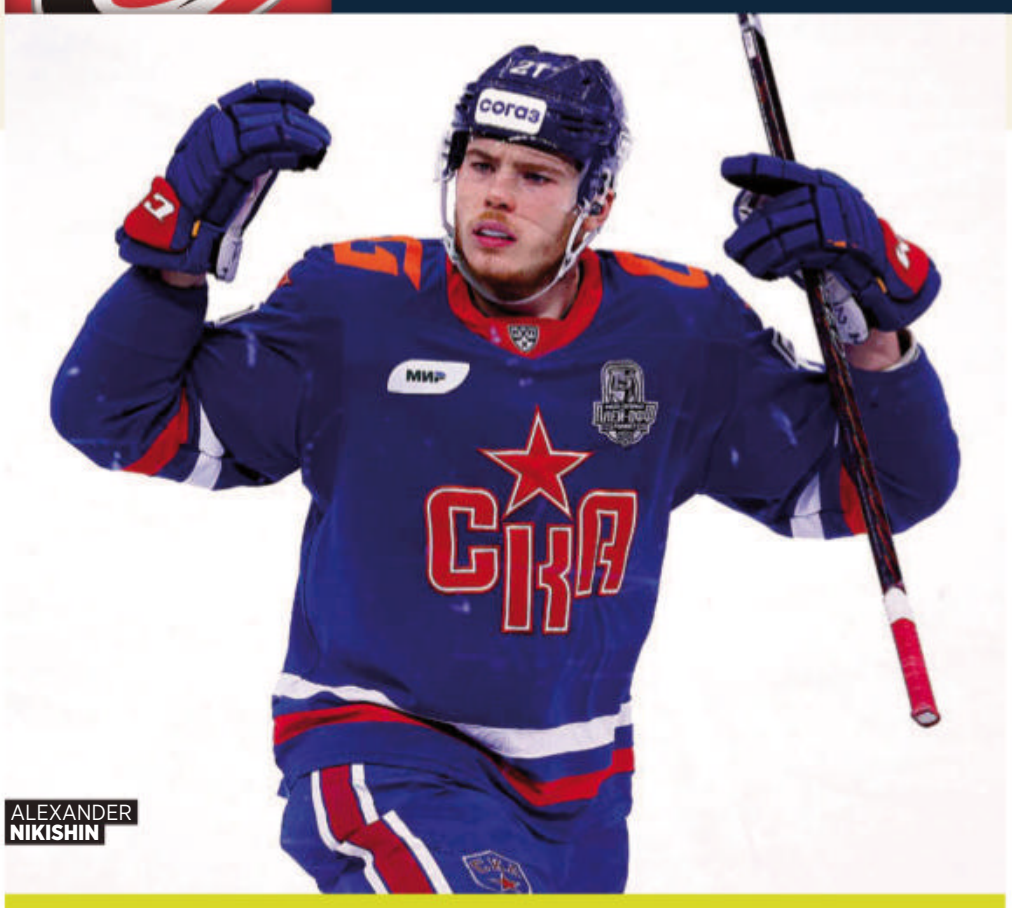
Owner Tom Dundon, GM Waddell, assistant GMs Eric Tulsky and Darren Yorke and coach Brind'Amour all have voices in the front office. Since Dundon bought the team in 2018, the Canes have leaned on their analytics team, but they've worked the angles, weaponizing their cap space and trading down in the draft.

DEPTH CHART | 2023-24

LEFT WING	CENTER	RIGHT WING
1. Andrei Svechnikov	1. Sebastian Aho	1. Martin Necas
2. Michael Bunting	2. Jesperi Kotkaniemi	2. Seth Jarvis
3. Jordan Martinook	3. Jordan Staal	3. Teuvo Teravainen
4. Brendan Lemieux	4. Jack Drury	4. Jesper Fast
5. Jamieson Rees	5. Vasily Ponomarev	5. Stefan Noesen

DEFENSE		GOALIE
1. Jaccob Slavin	6. Tony DeAngelo	1. Frederik Andersen
2. Brent Burns	7. Jalen Chatfield	2. Antti Raanta
3. Brett Pesce	8. Dylan Coghlan	3. Pyotr Kochetkov
4. Brady Skjei	9. Anttoni Honka	INJURED
5. Dmitry Orlov	10. Ronan Seeley	INDICATES NEW ARRIVAL

KEY DEPARTURES & UNSIGNED UFAs Calvin de Haan, D; Max Pacioretty, LW; Shayne Gostisbehere, D; Ondrej Kase, RW; Paul Stastny, C; Derek Stepan, C; Jesse Puljujarvi, RW



ALEXANDER NIKISHIN

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FUTURE WATCH

DESPITE BEING ONE OF the East's top teams, the Canes have drafted a lot in recent years, making 50 picks in the past five drafts. They've gone heavy on Europeans and NCAA-bound North Americans, including 2023 first-rounder Bradly Nadeau, a Maine commit. Russians have been a particular favorite, and Carolina grabbed a couple of late-round flyers this year in goalie Ruslan Khazheyev and dynamic winger Timur Mukhanov. When you're as good as the Canes, you can be patient.

TOP 10 PROSPECTS

1. Alexander Nikishin, D
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** St. Petersburg (KHL)
Three-year KHL deal will delay his NHL arrival. Big blueliner has developed his offensive game.
Acquired 69th overall, 2020 **NHL** '25-26

2. Scott Morrow, D
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** UMass (HE)
Making plays leads to some slips on 'D,' but he catches up quickly with smooth strides.
Acquired 40th overall, 2021 **NHL** '25-26

3. Bradly Nadeau, LW
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Penticton (BCHL)
Wicked release and power victimizes netminders. Projects as a future power-play triggerman.
Acquired 30th overall, 2023 **NHL** '26-27

4. Pyotr Kochetkov, G
Age 24 **2022-23 Team** Chicago (AHL)
Proved his NHL readiness last season and will soon get a shot at backup or 1B role.
Acquired 36th overall, 2019 **NHL** '24-25

5. Felix Unger Sorum, RW
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Leksand Jr. (Swe.)
Outstanding at spotting seams and threading passes. Has to prove himself at the next level.
Acquired 62nd overall, 2023 **NHL** '26-27

6. Jackson Blake, RW
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** North Dakota (NCHC)
Creative passer and adept at wriggling out of tight spaces with puck. Pro move coming soon.
Acquired 109th overall, 2021 **NHL** '25-26

7. Ville Koivunen, LW
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Karpat (Fin.)
Plays with pace and will make high-risk plays in the name of offense. Made AHL debut last year.
Acquired 51st overall, 2021 **NHL** '24-25

8. Gleb Trikozov, LW
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Omsk (Rus.2)
Decent production in Russia's second tier but needs to show he can contribute in the KHL.
Acquired 60th overall, 2022 **NHL** '26-27

9. Jayden Perron, RW
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Chicago (USHL)
Seasoning in NCAA is necessary after a great USHL year. Clever player who handles puck well.
Acquired 94th overall, 2023 **NHL** '27-28

10. Alexander Rykov, RW
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Chelyabinsk (Rus.2)
Good edges make him dangerous on the rush. Needs to show more in Russia's minor league.
Acquired 100th overall, 2023 **NHL** '27-28

SCHEDULE | 2023-24

Wed, Oct 11	vs Ottawa	7:00 PM
Sat, Oct 14	@ Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Sun, Oct 15	@ Anaheim	8:30 PM
Tue, Oct 17	@ San Jose	10:30 PM
Thu, Oct 19	@ Seattle	10:00 PM
Sat, Oct 21	@ Colorado	9:00 PM
Tue, Oct 24	@ Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Thu, Oct 26	vs Seattle	7:00 PM
Fri, Oct 27	vs San Jose	7:00 PM
Mon, Oct 30	@ Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Thu, Nov 2	@ NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Sat, Nov 4	@ NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Fri, Nov 10	@ Florida	7:00 PM
Sat, Nov 11	@ Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Wed, Nov 15	vs Philadelphia	7:30 PM
Sat, Nov 18	vs Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Wed, Nov 22	vs Edmonton	7:00 PM
Fri, Nov 24	vs Tampa Bay	3:00 PM
Sun, Nov 26	vs Columbus	5:00 PM
Tue, Nov 28	@ Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Thu, Nov 30	vs NY Islanders	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 2	vs Buffalo	7:00 PM
Mon, Dec 4	@ Winnipeg	9:00 PM
Wed, Dec 6	@ Edmonton	9:30 PM
Thu, Dec 7	@ Calgary	9:00 PM
Sat, Dec 9	@ Vancouver	10:00 PM
Tue, Dec 12	@ Ottawa	7:00 PM
Thu, Dec 14	@ Detroit	7:00 PM
Fri, Dec 15	vs Nashville	7:00 PM
Sun, Dec 17	vs Washington	6:00 PM
Tue, Dec 19	vs Vegas	7:00 PM
Thu, Dec 21	@ Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 23	vs NY Islanders	7:00 PM
Wed, Dec 27	@ Nashville	8:00 PM
Thu, Dec 28	vs Montreal	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 30	@ Toronto	7:00 PM
Tue, Jan 2	@ NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Fri, Jan 5	@ Washington	7:00 PM
Sat, Jan 6	vs St. Louis	7:00 PM
Thu, Jan 11	vs Anaheim	7:00 PM
Sat, Jan 13	vs Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Mon, Jan 15	vs Los Angeles	3:00 PM
Tue, Nov 7	vs Buffalo	7:00 PM
Fri, Jan 19	vs Detroit	7:00 PM
Sun, Jan 21	vs Minnesota	5:00 PM
Wed, Jan 24	@ Boston	7:30 PM
Thu, Jan 25	vs New Jersey	7:00 PM
Sat, Jan 27	vs Arizona	7:00 PM
Tue, Feb 6	vs Vancouver	7:00 PM
Thu, Feb 8	vs Colorado	8:00 PM
Sat, Feb 10	vs New Jersey	7:00 PM
Tue, Feb 13	@ Dallas	8:00 PM
Fri, Feb 16	@ Arizona	9:00 PM
Sat, Feb 17	@ Vegas	10:30 PM
Mon, Feb 19	vs Chicago	1:00 PM
Thu, Feb 22	vs Florida	7:00 PM
Sat, Feb 24	vs Dallas	7:00 PM
Sun, Feb 25	@ Buffalo	6:00 PM
Tue, Feb 27	@ Minnesota	8:00 PM
Thu, Feb 29	@ Columbus	7:00 PM
Sat, Mar 2	vs Winnipeg	12:30 PM
Thu, Mar 7	vs Montreal	7:00 PM
Sat, Mar 9	@ New Jersey	12:30 PM
Sun, Mar 10	vs Calgary	5:00 PM
Tue, Mar 12	vs NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Thu, Mar 14	vs Florida	7:00 PM
Sat, Mar 16	@ Toronto	7:00 PM
Sun, Mar 17	@ Ottawa	6:00 PM
Tue, Mar 19	@ NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Thu, Mar 21	vs Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Fri, Mar 22	@ Washington	7:00 PM
Sun, Mar 24	vs Toronto	6:00 PM
Tue, Mar 26	@ Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Thu, Mar 28	vs Detroit	7:00 PM
Sat, Mar 30	@ Montreal	7:00 PM
Thu, Apr 4	vs Boston	7:00 PM
Fri, Apr 5	vs Washington	7:00 PM
Sun, Apr 7	vs Columbus	5:00 PM
Tue, Apr 9	@ Boston	7:00 PM
Fri, Apr 12	@ St. Louis	8:00 PM
Sun, Apr 14	@ Chicago	6:00 PM
Tue, Apr 16	@ Columbus	7:00 PM

BRENT BURNS

NIKISHIN: KUZMIN YURY; BURNS: DAVID KIROUAC-USA TODAY SPORTS

ORGANIZATIONAL ROSTER

GOALIES	AGE	HT.	WT.	CATCHES	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	W-L-OT	GAA	SP
Frederik Andersen	33	6-4	238	Left	Herning, Den.	Free Agent: signed 7/28/21	Carolina	34	21-11-1	2.48	.903
Patrik Hamrla	20	6-3	194	Left	Zlin, Cze.	83rd overall (2021)	Rimouski (QMJHL)	44	19-19-3	2.82	.894
Ruslan Khazheyev	18	6-4	201	Left	Chelyabinsk, Rus.	158th overall (2023)	Chelyabinsk Jr. (Rus.)	23	8-8-7	2.38	.923
Pyotr Kochetkov	24	6-3	205	Left	Penza, Rus.	36th overall (2019)	Chicago (AHL)	26	17-6-3	2.64	.903
Jacob Kucharski	24	6-4	215	Left	Erie, Pa.	197th overall (2018)	Neb.-Omaha (NCHC)	20	8-9-2	2.72	.904
Yegor Naumov	20	6-3	198	Left	Yaroslavl, Rus.	200th overall (2021)	Kryl. Sovetov Jr. (Rus.)	9	2-3-0	2.86	.888
Yaniv Perets	23	6-1	181	Left	Dollard-des-Ormeaux, Que.	Free Agent: signed 4/12/23	Quinnipiac (ECAC)	41	34-4-3	1.49	.931
Nikita Quapp	20	6-3	187	Left	Ravensburg, Ger.	187th overall (2021)	Lausitzer (Ger.2)	12	6-6-0	2.67	.917
Antti Raanta	34	6-0	195	Left	Rauma, Fin.	Free Agent: signed 7/28/21	Carolina	27	19-3-3	2.23	.910
Yegor Velmakin	20	6-2	172	Left	Moscow, Rus.	222nd overall (2023)	Voronezh (Rus.2)	12	7-4-1	2.17	.937
Jakub Vondras	19	6-3	180	Right	Plzen, Cze.	171st overall (2022)	Plzen Jr. (Cze.)	29	18-10-0	2.19	.929
DEFENSEMEN	**AGE**	**HT.**	**WT.**	**SHOOTS**	**BORN**	**ACQUIRED**	**2022-23**	**GP**	**G**	**A**	**P**	**PIM**
Brent Burns	38	6-5	230	Right	Barrie, Ont.	Trade: SJ 7/13/22	Carolina	82	18	43	61	44
Jalen Chatfield	27	6-1	188	Right	Ypsilanti, Mich.	Free Agent: signed 7/29/21	Carolina	78	6	8	14	35
Dylan Coghlan	25	6-2	208	Right	Duncan, B.C.	Trade: Veg 7/13/22	Carolina	17	0	3	3	2
Tony DeAngelo	27	5-11	180	Right	Sewell, N.J.	Free Agent: signed 7/24/23	Philadelphia	70	11	31	42	73
Domenick Fensore	22	5-7	151	Left	Bronxville, N.Y.	90th overall (2019)	Boston University (HE)	37	9	22	31	30
Cavan Fitzgerald	27	6-1	190	Left	Boston, Mass.	Free Agent: signed 5/11/21	Chicago (AHL)	30	2	8	10	18
Simon Forsmark	19	6-2	191	Left	Orebro, Swe.	101st overall (2022)	Orebro Jr./Timra Jr. (Swe.)	41	6	26	32	10
Vladimir Grudinin	19	5-10	158	Left	Angarsk, Rus.	156th overall (2022)	CSKA Moscow (KHL)	26	1	1	2	6
Aleksi Heimosalmi	20	5-11	170	Right	Pori, Fin.	44th overall (2021)	Assat (Fin.)	45	4	11	15	12
Anttoni Honka	22	5-10	179	Right	Jyvaskyla, Fin.	83rd overall (2019)	Chicago (AHL)	70	6	28	34	22
Joey Keane	24	6-0	187	Right	Chicago, Ill.	Trade: NYR 2/18/20	Spartak Moscow (KHL)	64	6	18	24	75
Charles-Alexis Legault	20	6-3	208	Right	Montreal, Que.	139th overall (2023)	Quinnipiac (ECAC)	40	2	7	9	22
Griffin Mendel	24	6-6	220	Left	Kelowna, B.C.	Free Agent: signed 7/3/23	Chicago (AHL)	72	9	10	19	24
Bryce Montgomery	20	6-4	215	Right	Washington, D.C.	170th overall (2021)	Cedar Rapids (USHL)	48	6	11	17	70
Scott Morrow	20	6-2	195	Right	Darien, Conn.	40th overall (2021)	UMass (HE)	35	9	22	31	16
Alexander Nikishin	21	6-3	196	Left	Orel, Rus.	69th overall (2020)	St. Petersburg (KHL)	65	11	44	55	50
Joel Nystrom	21	5-11	170	Right	Karlstad, Swe.	219th overall (2021)	Farjestad (Swe.)	46	6	10	16	8
Dmitry Orlov	32	5-11	214	Left	Novokuznetsk, Rus.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Washington/Boston	66	7	29	36	22
Alexander Pelevin	19	6-1	183	Left	Balakhna, Rus.	205th overall (2022)	Nizhny Novgorod Jr. (Rus.)	41	2	16	18	59
Brett Pesce	28	6-3	206	Right	Tarrytown, N.Y.	66th overall (2013)	Carolina	82	5	25	30	43
Tarmo Reunanen	25	6-0	185	Left	Aanekoski, Fin.	Trade: NYR 3/28/22	Lukko (Fin.)	59	10	12	22	55
Ronan Seeley	21	6-0	176	Left	Yellowknife, N.W.T.	208th overall (2020)	Chicago (AHL)	70	4	21	25	10
Jesper Sellgren	25	5-11	169	Left	Ornskoldsvik, Swe.	166th overall (2018)	Lulea (Swe.)	47	1	10	11	6
Brady Skjei	29	6-3	210	Left	Lakeville, Minn.	Trade: NYR 2/24/20	Carolina	81	18	20	38	40
Jaccob Slavin	29	6-3	207	Left	Denver, Colo.	120th overall (2012)	Carolina	76	7	20	27	8
Cade Webber	22	6-6	194	Left	Worcester, Mass.	99th overall (2019)	Boston University (HE)	40	1	5	6	29
CENTERS	**AGE**	**HT.**	**WT.**	**SHOOTS**	**BORN**	**ACQUIRED**	**2022-23**	**GP**	**G**	**A**	**P**	**PIM**
Sebastian Aho	26	6-0	176	Left	Rauma. Fin.	35th overall (2015)	Carolina	75	36	31	67	42
Jack Drury	23	5-11	174	Left	New York, N.Y.	42nd overall (2018)	Carolina	38	2	6	8	14
Nikita Guslistov	21	5-10	178	Left	Cherepovets, Rus.	209th overall (2021)	Cherepovets (KHL)	52	4	11	15	8
Seth Jarvis	21	5-10	175	Right	Winnipeg, Man.	13th overall (2020)	Carolina	82	14	25	39	12
Jesperi Kotkaniemi	23	6-2	201	Left	Pori, Fin.	Free Agent: signed 8/28/21	Carolina	82	18	25	43	50
Lucas Mercuri	21	6-3	191	Right	Montreal, Que.	159th overall (2020)	UMass (HE)	35	3	11	14	33
Blake Murray	22	6-2	187	Left	Uxbridge, Ont.	183rd overall (2019)	Norfolk (ECHL)	29	10	7	17	38
Martin Necas	24	6-2	189	Right	Nove Mesto na Morave, Cze.	12th overall (2017)	Carolina	82	28	43	71	32
Vasiliy Ponomarev	21	5-10	180	Left	Moscow, Rus.	53rd overall (2020)	Chicago (AHL)	64	24	22	46	32
Jamieson Rees	22	5-11	172	Left	Hamilton, Ont.	44th overall (2019)	Chicago (AHL)	65	14	28	42	92
Justin Robidas	20	5-8	173	Right	Plano, Texas	147th overall (2021)	Val-d'Or/Quebec (QMJHL)	63	25	53	78	14
Jordan Staal	35	6-4	220	Left	Thunder Bay, Ont.	Trade: Pit 6/22/12	Carolina	81	17	17	34	32
Ryan Suzuki	22	6-0	176	Left	London, Ont.	28th overall (2019)	Chicago (AHL)	50	13	19	32	18
LEFT WINGERS	**AGE**	**HT.**	**WT.**	**SHOOTS**	**BORN**	**ACQUIRED**	**2022-23**	**GP**	**G**	**A**	**P**	**PIM**
Michael Bunting	28	6-0	192	Left	Scarborough, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Toronto	82	23	26	49	103
Ville Koivunen	20	5-11	161	Left	Oulu, Fin.	51st overall (2021)	Karpat (Fin.)	52	12	16	28	26
Brendan Lemieux	27	6-1	215	Left	Denver, Colo.	Free Agent: signed 7/11/23	Los Angeles/Philadelphia	45	2	7	9	74
Jordan Martinook	31	6-0	196	Left	Brandon, Man.	Trade: Ari 5/3/18	Carolina	82	13	21	34	61
Timur Mukhanov	18	5-7	178	Right	Glazov, Rus.	163rd overall (2023)	Omsk (Rus.2)	31	4	4	8	10
Bradly Nadeau	18	5-10	161	Right	St-Francois de Madaw, N.B.	30th overall (2023)	Penticton (BCHL)	54	45	68	113	20
Zion Nybeck	21	5-6	182	Left	Alvesta, Swe.	115th overall (2020)	AIK (Swe.2)	50	13	21	34	8
Alexander Perevalov	19	6-0	191	Right	Mezhdurechensk, Rus.	71st overall (2022)	Kunlan (KHL)	27	2	1	3	4
Teuvo Teravainen	29	5-11	191	Left	Helsinki, Fin.	Trade: Chi 6/15/16	Carolina	68	12	25	37	16
Gleb Trikozov	19	6-1	185	Right	Omsk, Rus.	60th overall (2022)	Omsk Jr. (Rus.)	25	14	15	29	2
RIGHT WINGERS	**AGE**	**HT.**	**WT.**	**SHOOTS**	**BORN**	**ACQUIRED**	**2022-23**	**GP**	**G**	**A**	**P**	**PIM**
Jackson Blake	20	5-10	152	Right	Fargo, N.D.	109th overall (2021)	North Dakota (NCHC)	39	16	26	42	16
Michael Emerson	19	6-1	192	Right	Yorktown Heights, N.Y.	190th overall (2023)	Chicago (USHL)	60	30	34	64	20
Jesper Fast	31	6-1	191	Right	Nassjo, Rus.	Free Agent: signed 10/10/20	Carolina	80	10	19	29	16
Noel Gunler	21	6-2	176	Right	Lulea, Swe.	41st overall (2020)	Chicago (AHL)	31	8	10	18	12
David Kase	26	5-11	169	Left	Kadan, Cze.	Trade: Phi 8/9/23	Prague (Cze.)	25	6	8	14	8
Cruz Lucius	19	6-0	178	Right	Lawrence, Kan.	124th overall (2022)	Wisconsin (Big Ten)	34	11	23	34	18
Stefan Noesen	30	6-1	205	Right	Plano, Texas	Free Agent: signed 8/1/21	Carolina	78	13	23	36	32
Alexander Pashin	21	5-8	154	Left	Priyutovo, Rus.	199th overall (2020)	Chicago (AHL)	47	4	6	10	13
Jayden Perron	18	5-9	163	Right	Winnipeg, Man.	94th overall (2023)	Chicago (USHL)	61	24	48	72	18
Alexander Rykov	18	6-0	176	Left	Magnitogorsk, Rus.	100th overall (2023)	Chelyabinsk (Rus.2)	20	4	7	11	10
Kirill Slepets	24	5-10	165	Left	Khabarovsk, Rus.	152nd overall (2019)	Krasnoyarsk (Rus.2)	19	6	9	15	4
Andrei Svechnikov	23	6-2	195	Left	Barnaul, Rus.	2nd overall (2018)	Carolina	64	23	32	55	71
Tuukka Tieksola	22	5-10	146	Right	Oulu, Fin.	121st overall (2019)	Chicago (AHL)	52	8	16	24	18
Felix Unger Sorum	18	5-11	170	Right	Trondheim, Nor.	62nd overall (2023)	Leksand Jr. (Swe.)	42	10	36	46	4
Kevin Wall	23	6-0	188	Right	Rochester, N.Y.	181st overall (2019)	Penn State (Big Ten)	39	17	14	31	16
Stanislav Yarovoi	20	5-11	190	Right	Tuymazy, Rus.	126th overall (2023)	Vityaz Moscow Region (KHL)	45	9	7	16	2

CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS

CONNOR BEDARD

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BY **MATT CARLSON**

THE VIBE AROUND THE downtrodden Blackhawks changed with the flip of a card on May 8. That's the day we learned Chicago had won the No. 1 pick in the 2023 NHL draft. GM Kyle Davidson didn't mention generational talent Connor Bedard for the next seven weeks, but that's whose name he called at the draft in Nashville on June 28.

Bedard, who led the CHL in scoring last season, walked to the stage and pulled on a red, No. 98 Blackhawks jersey. Then, at Chicago's development camp, the center stressed he just wanted to "make the team" and "be one of the guys" come September. The kid from North Vancouver, B.C., should do just that. Bedard provides a foundation for – and hastens – Chicago's rebuild. His arrival neatly bookends the departures of franchise icons Patrick Kane and Jonathan Toews. Bedard will instantly improve the Hawks, who had the NHL's third-worst record last season. Davidson also acquired veterans to provide production and support for Bedard and the other kids. Enter Taylor Hall, Nick Foligno, Corey Perry and Ryan Donato.

>OFFENSE

The Blackhawks finished with an NHL-worst 202 goals in 2022-23. Bedard's skating, shot and playmaking will lead to improvement, even if he's making a huge step up from the WHL to the NHL. Hall is a former No. 1 draft pick himself (2010) and won the Hart Trophy in 2018 skating alongside 2017 top selection Nico Hischier in New Jersey. Both Hall, 31, and Foligno, 35, want to return to bigger roles after being acquired from Boston. Perry adds grit and experience, while Donato is a veteran utility man. Expect more output from 21-year-old Lukas Reichel,

2022-23 NUMBERS

RECORD
26-49-7 (.360)

OVERTIME
6-5

SHOOTOUT
2-2

OVERALL
30th

OFFENSE
2.46 GPG (32nd)

DEFENSE
3.65 GAA (28th)

POWER PLAY
16.4% (28th)

PENALTY KILL
76.2% (22nd)

CORSI FOR/60
47.88 (32nd)

CORSI AGAINST/60
61.18 (29th)

ICE TIME LEAD (F)
J. Toews (17:43)

ICE TIME LEAD (D)
S. Jones (24:27)

FAST FACTS

COACH
Luke Richardson

GM
Kyle Davidson

ARENA
United Center

CAPACITY
19,717

AHL AFFILIATE
Rockford IceHogs

ECHL AFFILIATE
Indy Fuel

PLAYOFF RECORD
4-5 (since 2019)

BEDARD: CHRISTOPHER HANEWINCKEL-USA TODAY SPORTS

CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS

SETH JONES

who could line up with Bedard. Speedy Andreas Athanasiou comes off a strong finish with a new contract, joining right winger Taylor Raddysh as the only returning Hawks players who scored 20 goals last season.

>DEFENSE

Seth Jones anchors the blueline after averaging 24:27 in ice time while scoring 12 goals and 37 points in 2022-23. Fellow 6-foot-4 veteran Connor Murphy averaged 19:23, and Jarred Tinordi settled in to provide rugged stability. All eyes are on Kevin Korchinski, the team's top 'D' prospect. The 6-foot-1 19-year-old had a dynamite season with WHL Seattle (11 goals, 73 points), helping the Thunderbirds advance to the Memorial Cup final while also winning gold with Bedard and Team Canada at the world juniors. Because he's not yet 20, Korchinski must either play with the Blackhawks or return to junior.

>GOALTENDING

Davidson says he's happy with the goaltending, so the crease belongs to Petr Mrazek, 31, and Arvid Soderblom, 24. The oft-injured Mrazek is in the final year of a three-year pact he initially signed with Toronto. Soderblom, with more upside potential, starts a low-cost two-year deal. Drew Commesso, the team's top goalie prospect, and Jaxson Stauber will suit up for AHL Rockford.

>SPECIAL TEAMS

There was nothing special about them last year. The power play ranked 28th at 16.4 percent, while the penalty killing was 22nd at 76.2 percent. The power play figures to improve with Bedard on one of the units, especially if his wizardry translates quickly to the NHL. The savvy Hall will help bolster things, too.

>INTANGIBLES

Davidson is banking on the veteran skills, leadership and mentoring from Hall, Foligno and Perry to help Bedard and the other youngsters. The vets will look after emerging prospects on and off the ice. That means protection, as needed. Foligno and Perry can still deal a shot and drop the gloves, so new skilled players will have enough space to do their jobs.

CUP ODDS

120/1

>ROOKIES

There are none bigger than Bedard, who's rated as the best rookie since Connor McDavid entered the NHL in 2015. Davidson stopped short of suggesting Bedard will approach the 102-point rookie production of Sidney Crosby – but, yes, it's safe to say that expectations are sky-high. If Korchinski can make the team and contribute, that would be a huge boost. There are three other young defensemen to keep an eye on: 6-foot-6 22-year-old Alex Vlasic, 21-year-old Wyatt Kaiser and 22-year-old Isaak Phillips.

>X-FACTOR

There are more X-factors than sure things in Chicago. The answers to these key questions will dictate much about how the 2023-24 campaign unfolds. How good will Bedard be, and how fast? How much does Hall have left in the tank as he again becomes a top-six forward? And how ready is Korchinski?

>THE BRASS

Davidson, 35, is not only acquiring prospects and assets, he's letting his personality show. His "Kyle from Chicago" prank on an unwitting podcast team at the NHL draft in Nashville resulted in a viral video. Quietly intense coach Luke Richardson enters his second season with respect from his players. That was especially true in development camp, where no one wanted to "come near" the tough former NHL defenseman in boxing sessions.

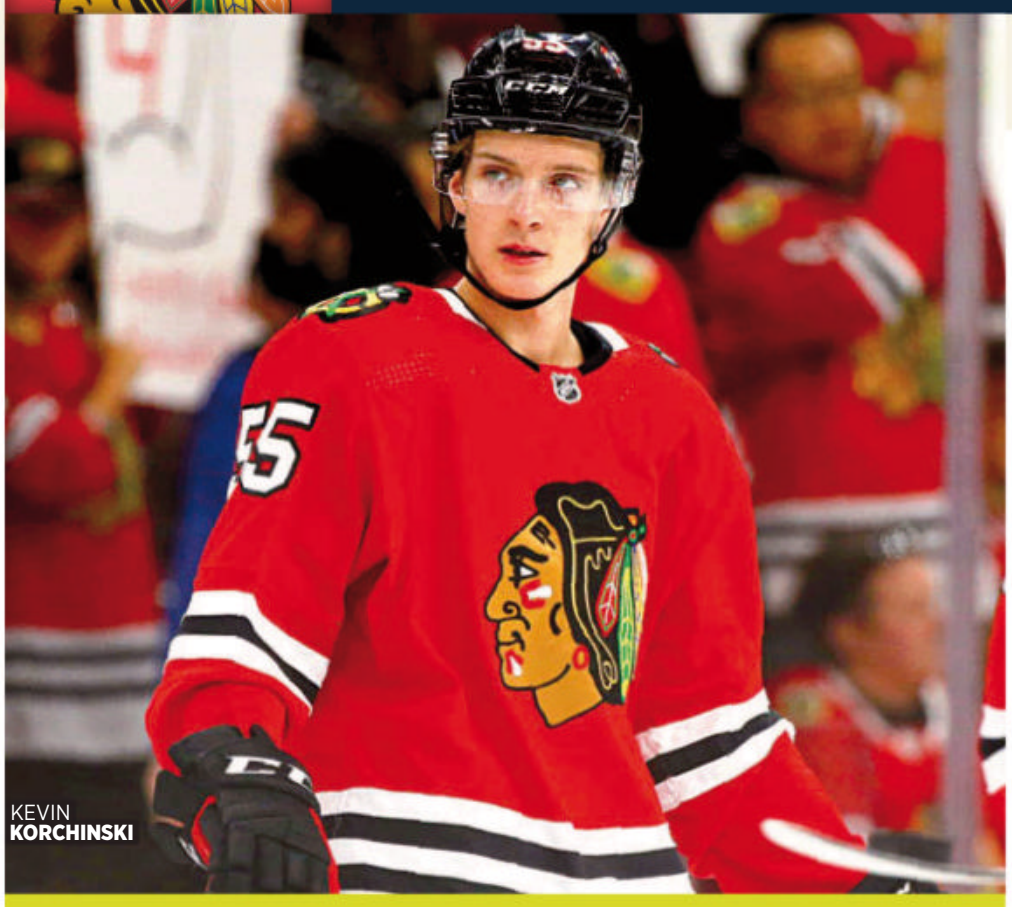
DEPTH CHART | 2023-24

LEFT WING	CENTER	RIGHT WING
1. Taylor Hall	1. Connor Bedard	1. Andreas Athanasiou
2. Lukas Reichel	2. Tyler Johnson	2. Taylor Raddysh
3. Nick Foligno	3. Ryan Donato	3. Philipp Kurashev
4. Boris Katchouk	4. Jason Dickinson	4. Corey Perry
5. MacKenzie Entwistle	5. Colin Blackwell	5. Reese Johnson

DEFENSE		GOALIE
1. Seth Jones	6. Alex Vlasic	1. Petr Mrazek
2. Connor Murphy	7. Isaak Phillips	2. Arvid Soderblom
3. Jarred Tinordi	8. Wyatt Kaiser	3. Jaxson Stauber
4. Nikita Zaitsev	9. Filip Roos	INJURED
5. Kevin Korchinski	10. Louis Crevier	INDICATES NEW ARRIVAL

KEY DEPARTURES & UNSIGNED UFAs Jonathan Toews, C; Alex Stalock, G; Jujhar Khaira, LW; Caleb Jones, D; Andreas Englund, D; Anders Bjork, LW; Ian Mitchell, D; Buddy Robinson, RW; Austin Wagner, LW; Anton Khudobin, G; Alec Regula, D

JONES: DAVID KIROUAC-USA TODAY SPORTS



KEVIN
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FUTURE WATCH

WHEN YOU GET CONNOR Bedard, you've already won the draft. But the Blackhawks didn't stop there, fortifying their haul with speedster Oliver Moore, top goalie Adam Gajan and second-half king Nick Lardis. The upcoming season will be huge for the 2022 class, with Frank Nazar returning from injury and D-men Kevin Korchinski and Sam Rinzel in line for opportunities to play big roles on their local teams as well as at the world juniors – one for Canada, the other for U.S.

TOP 10 PROSPECTS

1. Connor Bedard, C
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Regina (WHL)
What's left to say? Most exciting prospect since McDavid is about to step into the NHL spotlight.
Acquired 1st overall, 2023 **NHL** '23-24

2. Kevin Korchinski, D
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Seattle (WHL)
Clever, agile blueliner is fearless when moving the puck and played integral role in WHL title.
Acquired 7th overall, 2022 **NHL** '23-24

3. Lukas Reichel, LW
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** Rockford (AHL)
Quarter-season in NHL showed he's ready. Patience paid off, and he's set for a middle-six role.
Acquired 17th overall, 2020 **NHL** '23-24

4. Oliver Moore, C
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** USA U18 (NTDP)
Incredible skater with great vision and endless compete. All that's missing is some size.
Acquired 19th overall, 2023 **NHL** '25-26

5. Frank Nazar, C
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Michigan (Big Ten)
Savvy playmaker plays with speed and edge. Hip surgery cost him most of freshman campaign.
Acquired 13th overall, 2022 **NHL** '26-27

6. Adam Gajan, G
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Chippewa (NAHL)
Speed, size and athleticism are all present. The USHL will be a good measuring stick.
Acquired 35th overall, 2023 **NHL** '27-28

7. Sam Rinzel, D
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Waterloo (USHL)
He needs to get stronger, but he skates well and has puck skills to produce from the back end.
Acquired 25th overall, 2022 **NHL** '26-27

8. Drew Commesso, G
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** Boston U. (HE)
Mechanically sound. Excellent at BU and earned a national-team spot. Now, bound for AHL.
Acquired 46th overall, 2020 **NHL** '25-26

9. Colton Dach, C
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Seattle (WHL)
Missed time last year with injury. His shot is lethal, and AHL stint will help round out his game.
Acquired 62nd overall, 2021 **NHL** '24-25

10. Ethan Del Mastro, D
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Sarnia (OHL)
Big, physical and leads by example. He can score, too, but has attributes to be a solid defender.
Acquired 105th overall, 2021 **NHL** '25-26

SCHEDULE | 2023-24

Tue, Oct 10	@ Pittsburgh	8:00 PM
Wed, Oct 11	@ Boston	7:30 PM
Sat, Oct 14	@ Montreal	7:00 PM
Mon, Oct 16	@ Toronto	7:00 PM
Thu, Oct 19	@ Colorado	10:30 PM
Sat, Oct 21	vs Vegas	8:00 PM
Tue, Oct 24	vs Boston	8:30 PM
Fri, Oct 27	@ Vegas	6:00 PM
Mon, Oct 30	@ Arizona	10:00 PM
Sat, Nov 4	vs Florida	8:00 PM
Sun, Nov 5	vs New Jersey	7:00 PM
Thu, Nov 9	@ Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Sun, Nov 12	@ Florida	1:00 PM
Thu, Nov 16	vs Tampa Bay	8:30 PM
Sat, Nov 18	@ Nashville	8:00 PM
Sun, Nov 19	vs Buffalo	7:00 PM
Wed, Nov 22	@ Columbus	7:00 PM
Fri, Nov 24	vs Toronto	2:00 PM
Sun, Nov 26	vs St. Louis	2:00 PM
Tue, Nov 28	vs Seattle	8:30 PM
Thu, Nov 30	@ Detroit	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 2	@ Winnipeg	3:00 PM
Sun, Dec 3	@ Minnesota	2:00 PM
Tue, Dec 5	vs Nashville	8:30 PM
Thu, Dec 7	vs Anaheim	8:30 PM
Sat, Dec 9	vs St. Louis	8:00 PM
Sun, Dec 10	vs Washington	7:00 PM
Tue, Dec 12	@ Edmonton	10:00 PM
Thu, Dec 14	@ Seattle	10:00 PM
Sun, Dec 17	vs Vancouver	3:00 PM
Tue, Dec 19	vs Colorado	8:30 PM
Fri, Dec 22	vs Montreal	8:30 PM
Sat, Dec 23	@ St. Louis	8:00 PM
Wed, Dec 27	vs Winnipeg	9:00 PM
Fri, Dec 29	@ Dallas	8:00 PM
Sun, Dec 31	@ Dallas	8:00 PM
Tue, Jan 2	@ Nashville	8:00 PM
Thu, Jan 4	@ NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Fri, Jan 5	@ New Jersey	7:00 PM
Sun, Jan 7	vs Calgary	3:00 PM
Tue, Jan 9	vs Edmonton	8:30 PM
Thu, Jan 11	@ Winnipeg	8:00 PM
Sat, Jan 13	vs Dallas	8:00 PM
Tue, Jan 16	vs San Jose	8:30 PM
Wed, Jan 17	@ Buffalo	7:30 PM
Fri, Jan 19	vs NY Islanders	8:30 PM
Mon, Jan 22	@ Vancouver	10:00 PM
Wed, Jan 24	@ Seattle	10:00 PM
Thu, Jan 25	@ Edmonton	9:00 PM
Sat, Jan 27	@ Calgary	10:00 PM
Wed, Feb 7	vs Minnesota	9:30 PM
Fri, Feb 9	vs NY Rangers	8:30 PM
Tue, Feb 13	vs Vancouver	8:30 PM
Thu, Feb 15	vs Pittsburgh	8:30 PM
Sat, Feb 17	vs Ottawa	3:00 PM
Mon, Feb 19	@ Carolina	1:00 PM
Wed, Feb 21	vs Philadelphia	7:30 PM
Fri, Feb 23	vs Winnipeg	8:30 PM
Sun, Feb 25	vs Detroit	6:00 PM
Thu, Feb 29	vs Colorado	9:00 PM
Sat, Mar 2	vs Columbus	8:00 PM
Mon, Mar 4	@ Colorado	9:00 PM
Tue, Mar 5	@ Arizona	9:00 PM
Sat, Mar 9	@ Washington	7:00 PM
Sun, Mar 10	vs Arizona	6:00 PM
Tue, Mar 12	vs Anaheim	8:30 PM
Fri, Mar 15	vs Los Angeles	8:30 PM
Sun, Mar 17	vs San Jose	6:00 PM
Tue, Mar 19	@ Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Thu, Mar 21	@ Anaheim	10:00 PM
Sat, Mar 23	@ San Jose	10:30 PM
Tue, Mar 26	vs Calgary	8:30 PM
Thu, Mar 28	@ Ottawa	7:00 PM
Sat, Mar 30	@ Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Tue, Apr 2	@ NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Sat, Apr 6	vs Dallas	4:30 PM
Sun, Apr 7	vs Minnesota	3:30 PM
Wed, Apr 10	@ St. Louis	8:00 PM
Fri, Apr 12	vs Nashville	8:30 PM
Sun, Apr 14	vs Carolina	6:00 PM
Tue, Apr 16	@ Vegas	9:30 PM
Thu, Apr 18	@ Los Angeles	10:30 PM

ANDREAS
ATHANASIOU

KORCHINSKI: JON DURR-USA TODAY SPORTS; ATHANASIOU: JAMIE SABAU-USA TODAY SPORTS

ORGANIZATIONAL ROSTER

CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS

GOALIES	AGE	HT.	WT.	CATCHES	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	W-L-OT	GAA	SP	
Dominic Basse	22	6-6	179	Left	Alexandria, Va.	167th overall (2019)	St. Cloud State (NCHC)	19	11-5-2	2.30	.911	
Drew Commesso	21	6-2	180	Left	Norwell, Mass.	46th overall (2020)	Boston University (HE)	34	24-8-0	2.46	.913	
Adam Gajan	19	6-3	167	Left	Poprad, Svk.	35th overall (2023)	Chippewa (NAHL)	34	19-12-1	2.57	.917	
Petr Mrazek	31	6-2	188	Left	Ostrava, Cze.	Trade: Tor 7/7/22	Chicago	39	10-22-3	3.66	.894	
Ivan Nalimov	29	6-4	210	Left	Novokuznetsk, Rus.	179th overall (2014)	AKM Tula (Rus.2)	1	0-0-0	6.00	.833	
Arvid Soderblom	24	6-3	180	Left	Gothenburg, Swe.	Free Agent: signed 5/17/21	Rockford (AHL)	33	15-12-5	2.92	.905	
Jaxson Stauber	24	6-3	174	Left	Wayzata, Minn.	Free Agent: signed 3/23/22	Rockford (AHL)	17	6-8-0	3.32	.894	
DEFENSEMEN	**AGE**	**HT.**	**WT.**	**SHOOTS**	**BORN**	**ACQUIRED**	**2022-23**	**GP**	**G**	**A**	**P**	**PIM**
Nolan Allan	20	6-2	195	Left	Saskatoon, Sask.	32nd overall (2021)	Prince Albert/Seattle (WHL)	57	11	16	27	50
Louis Crevier	22	6-0	196	Right	Quebec City, Que.	188th overall (2020)	Rockford (AHL)	62	0	5	5	14
Ethan Del Mastro	20	6-4	210	Left	Burlington, Ont.	105th overall (2021)	Mississauga/Sarnia (OHL)	52	7	52	59	82
Jakub Galvas	24	5-11	161	Left	Ostrava, Cze.	150th overall (2017)	Rockford (AHL)	64	3	26	29	22
Taige Harding	21	6-6	235	Left	Glasgow, Gbr.	91st overall (2021)	Providence (HE)	37	4	13	17	19
Seth Jones	28	6-4	213	Right	Arlington, Texas	Trade: Clb 7/23/21	Chicago	72	12	25	37	30
Wyatt Kaiser	21	6-0	173	Left	Andover, Minn.	81st overall (2020)	Minn.-Duluth (NCHC)	35	5	18	23	48
Connor Kelley	21	6-1	190	Right	Maple Grove, Minn.	204th overall (2021)	Providence (HE)	21	0	6	6	10
Kevin Korchinski	19	6-1	185	Left	Saskatoon, Sask.	7th overall (2022)	Seattle (WHL)	54	11	62	73	54
Michael Krutil	21	6-3	202	Right	Prague, Cze.	110th overall (2020)	Sokolov (Cze.2)	22	0	1	1	16
Connor Murphy	30	6-4	212	Right	Dublin, Ohio	Trade: Ari 6/23/17	Chicago	80	7	6	13	69
Janne Peltonen	18	6-3	174	Left	Oulu, Fin.	195th overall (2023)	Karpat Jr. (Fin.)	40	3	6	9	10
Isaak Phillips	22	6-3	205	Left	Barrie, Ont.	141st overall (2020)	Rockford (AHL)	51	6	17	23	80
Sam Rinzel	19	6-4	177	Right	Chanhassen, Minn.	25th overall (2022)	Waterloo (USHL)	58	9	27	36	36
Filip Roos	24	6-4	190	Left	Gothenburg, Swe.	Free Agent: signed 5/23/22	Rochester (AHL)	39	3	8	11	20
Jake Ryczek	25	5-10	181	Right	Springfield, Mass.	203rd overall (2016)	Adirondack (ECHL)	19	2	5	7	22
Vili Saarijarvi	26	5-10	182	Right	Rovaniemi, Fin.	Trade: Ari 2/28/23	Langnau (Sui.)	49	11	22	33	12
Jarred Tinordi	31	6-6	229	Left	Millersville, Md.	Waivers: NYR 10/10/22	Chicago	44	2	6	8	40
Alex Vlasic	22	6-6	199	Left	Wilmette, Ill.	43rd overall (2019)	Rockford (AHL)	56	2	17	19	25
Nikita Zaitsev	31	6-2	192	Right	Moscow, Rus.	Trade: Ott 2/22/23	Ottawa/Chicago	46	1	7	8	20
CENTERS	**AGE**	**HT.**	**WT.**	**SHOOTS**	**BORN**	**ACQUIRED**	**2022-23**	**GP**	**G**	**A**	**P**	**PIM**
Andreas Athanasiou	29	6-2	190	Left	Woodbridge, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Chicago	81	20	20	40	34
Connor Bedard	18	5-10	185	Right	North Vancouver, B.C.	1st overall (2023)	Regina (WHL)	57	71	72	143	62
Colin Blackwell	30	5-9	190	Right	North Andover, Mass.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Chicago	53	2	8	10	6
Colton Dach	20	6-4	196	Left	St. Albert, Alta.	62nd overall (2021)	Kelowna/Seattle (WHL)	23	12	15	27	31
Jason Dickinson	28	6-2	200	Left	Georgetown, Ont.	Trade: Van 10/7/22	Chicago	78	9	21	30	28
Ryan Donato	27	6-0	190	Left	Boston, Mass.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Seattle	71	14	13	27	46
Jiri Felcman	18	6-4	198	Left	Hradec Kralove, Cze.	93rd overall (2023)	Langnau Jr. (Sui.)	40	10	21	31	14
Liam Gorman	23	6-2	188	Left	Boston, Mass.	Trade: Pit 7/8/22	Princeton (ECAC)	32	12	12	24	33
Ryan Greene	19	6-1	174	Right	St. John's, Nfld.	57th overall (2022)	Boston University (HE)	38	9	22	31	20
Cole Guttman	24	5-9	167	Right	Northridge, Calif.	Free Agent: signed 8/18/22	Rockford (AHL)	39	16	14	30	26
Dominic James	21	5-9	148	Left	Plymouth, Mich.	173rd overall (2022)	Minn.-Duluth (NCHC)	35	10	18	28	20
Reese Johnson	25	6-1	193	Right	Regina, Sask.	Free Agent: signed 3/6/19	Chicago	57	4	2	6	38
Tyler Johnson	33	5-8	185	Right	Spokane, Wash.	Trade: TB 7/27/21	Chicago	56	12	20	32	16
Philipp Kurashev	23	6-0	190	Left	Munsingen, Sui.	120th overall (2018)	Chicago	70	9	16	25	14
Paul Ludwinski	19	5-11	172	Left	Toronto, Ont.	39th overall (2022)	Kingston (OHL)	47	9	25	34	12
Jalen Luypen	21	5-10	155	Left	Kelowna, B.C.	216th overall (2021)	Tri-City (WHL)	38	18	21	39	36
Oliver Moore	18	5-11	188	Left	Mounds View, Minn.	19th overall (2023)	USA U18 (NTDP)	61	31	44	75	26
Frank Nazar	19	5-9	175	Right	Detroit, Mich.	13th overall (2022)	Michigan (Big Ten)	13	2	5	7	0
Milton Oscarson	20	6-6	216	Left	Kumla, Swe.	167th overall (2023)	Orebro (Swe.)	45	1	2	3	2
Alex Pharand	18	6-3	198	Right	Chelmsford, Ont.	99th overall (2023)	Sudbury (OHL)	67	18	21	39	23
Luke Philp	27	5-10	181	Right	Canmore, Alta.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Rockford (AHL)	60	29	24	53	29
Antti Saarela	22	5-11	183	Left	Laitila, Fin.	123rd overall (2019)	Lukko (Fin.)	41	7	11	18	10
Ilya Safonov	22	6-4	205	Left	Moscow, Rus.	172nd overall (2021)	Kazan (KHL)	64	19	18	37	13
Victor Stjernborg	20	5-10	202	Left	Malmo, Swe.	108th overall (2021)	Vaxjo (Swe.)	42	1	7	8	0
Aidan Thompson	21	5-11	180	Left	Fort Collins, Colo.	90th overall (2022)	Denver (NCHC)	32	10	22	32	4
Riku Tohila	19	6-5	190	Right	Kalajoki, Fin.	199th overall (2022)	JYP Jr. (Fin.)	42	18	6	24	65
Jake Wise	23	5-10	189	Left	Naples, Fla.	69th overall (2018)	Ohio State (Big Ten)	40	12	27	39	10
LEFT WINGERS	**AGE**	**HT.**	**WT.**	**SHOOTS**	**BORN**	**ACQUIRED**	**2022-23**	**GP**	**G**	**A**	**P**	**PIM**
Nick Foligno	35	6-0	210	Left	Buffalo, N.Y.	Trade: Bos 6/26/23	Boston	60	10	16	26	45
Parker Foo	25	6-1	171	Left	Edmonton, Alta.	144th overall (2017)	Kunlun (KHL)	60	15	15	30	32
Taylor Hall	31	6-1	210	Left	Calgary, Alta.	Trade: Bos 6/26/23	Boston	61	16	20	36	24
Mike Hardman	24	6-2	205	Left	Hanover, Mass.	Free Agent: signed 3/30/21	Rockford (AHL)	58	5	13	18	36
Gavin Hayes	19	6-1	177	Right	Ypsilanti, Mich.	66th overall (2022)	Flint (OHL)	66	41	40	81	32
Boris Katchouk	25	6-2	206	Left	Vancouver, B.C.	Trade: TB 3/18/22	Chicago	58	5	11	16	27
Artur Kayumov	25	5-11	176	Left	Podgorny, Rus.	50th overall (2016)	Yaroslavl (KHL)	53	12	22	34	20
Nick Lardis	18	5-11	165	Left	Oakville, Ont.	67th overall (2023)	Peterborough/Hamilton (OHL)	69	37	28	65	6
Marcel Marcel	19	6-4	242	Left	Plzen, Cze.	131st overall (2023)	Gatineau (QMJHL)	52	14	18	32	53
Lukas Reichel	21	6-0	170	Left	Nuremberg, Ger.	17th overall (2020)	Rockford (AHL)	55	20	31	51	12
Samuel Savoie	19	5-10	189	Left	Dieppe, N.B.	81st overall (2022)	Gatineau (QMJHL)	60	26	33	59	90
Brett Seney	27	5-9	156	Left	London, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Rockford (AHL)	59	23	31	54	57
Landon Slaggert	21	6-0	180	Left	South Bend, Ind.	79th overall (2020)	Notre Dame (Big Ten)	35	7	6	13	14
Michal Teply	22	6-3	187	Right	Havlickuv Brod, Cze.	105th overall (2019)	Rockford (AHL)	56	9	16	25	10
RIGHT WINGERS	**AGE**	**HT.**	**WT.**	**SHOOTS**	**BORN**	**ACQUIRED**	**2022-23**	**GP**	**G**	**A**	**P**	**PIM**
Joey Anderson	25	6-0	207	Right	Roseville, Minn.	Trade: Tor 2/27/23	Toronto/Chicago	38	6	3	9	0
Mackenzie Entwistle	24	6-3	184	Right	Georgetown, Ont.	Trade: Ari 7/12/18	Chicago	66	4	6	10	14
David Gust	29	5-10	177	Right	Orland Park, Ill.	Free Agent: signed 2/23/23	Rockford (AHL)	65	26	33	59	54
Nils Juntorp	19	6-0	170	Right	Ulricehamn, Swe.	188th overall (2022)	Dubuque (USHL)	59	12	15	27	28
Roman Kantserov	19	5-9	176	Left	Magnitogorsk, Rus.	44th overall (2023)	Magnitogorsk Jr. (Rus.)	45	27	27	54	17
Martin Misiak	19	6-2	194	Left	Banska Bystrica, Svk.	55th overall (2023)	Nove Zamky (Svk.)	29	1	9	10	10
Corey Perry	38	6-3	208	Right	Peterborough, Ont.	Trade: TB 6/29/23	Tampa Bay	81	12	13	25	95
Taylor Raddysh	25	6-3	198	Right	Caledon, Ont.	Trade: TB 3/18/22	Chicago	78	20	17	37	16
Ryder Rolston	21	6-1	175	Right	Boston, Mass.	Trade: Col 4/12/21	Notre Dame (Big Ten)	27	7	13	20	4
Maxim Shalunov	30	6-3	185	Left	Chelyabinsk, Rus.	109th overall (2011)	Yaroslavl (KHL)	62	29	13	42	26

COLORADO AVALANCHE

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BY **JARED CLINTON**

AT A GLANCE, THE price the Avalanche paid for Stanley Cup glory in 2022 was minimal. They finished atop the Central Division, third in the Western Conference and were every bit the regular-season powerhouse in 2022-23 that they'd been the campaign prior.

But while the extent of the Cup hangover wasn't evident in the standings, it was in the infirmary. Colorado was among the most banged-up clubs, losing more man-games from high-end talent than almost any other team. Despite that, the Avs came within one win of making it out of the first round. And while it's true Colorado failed to capture back-to-back titles, the definition of "dynasty" is stretched in the salary-cap age. The Avs still have a shot at adding such a tag to this era in franchise history.

>OFFENSE

Entering last season without Gabriel Landeskog was frightening, though not downright terrifying. This season? Colorado knows what to expect and has prepared for the absence of its captain, who's out for the year after a cartilage transplant in his right knee. With Ryan Johansen on the outs in Nashville, the Avs acquired the veteran center at essentially no cost. Nashville also retained 50 percent of Johansen's cap hit. Colorado then signed Miles Wood for the bottom six. We already know Nathan MacKinnon and Mikko Rantanen will flirt with 100 points, and there might be no other club that can compete with Colorado's offensive production from the back end. The salary cap is beginning to eat away at the depth of the roster, sure, but the high-end skill that exists is enough to once again make the Avalanche a Central Division favorite and a legitimate Stanley Cup contender.

2022-23 NUMBERS

RECORD
51-24-7 (.665)

OVERTIME
9-4

SHOOTOUT
6-3

OVERALL
7th

OFFENSE
3.34 GPG (11th)

DEFENSE
2.72 GAA (9th)

POWER PLAY
24.5% (6th)

PENALTY KILL
79.0% (17th)

CORSI FOR/60
59.97 (7th)

CORSI AGAINST/60
54.93 (11th)

ICE TIME LEAD (F)
N. MacKinnon (22:19)

ICE TIME LEAD (D)
C. Makar (26:23)

FAST FACTS

COACH
Jared Bednar

GM
Chris MacFarland

ARENA
Ball Arena

CAPACITY
17,809

AHL AFFILIATE
Colorado Eagles

ECHL AFFILIATE
Utah Grizzlies

PLAYOFF RECORD
39-22 (since 2019)

MAKAR: SERGEI BELSKI-USA TODAY SPORTS

COLORADO AVALANCHE

MACKINNON: DAN HAMILTON-USA TODAY SPORTS

>DEFENSE

Sacrifices had to be made, and the departure of Erik Johnson – after 12-plus seasons in Colorado – was the most painful. Granted, it's somewhat easier to part ways with a longtime blueline stalwart when he's slipped from first- to third-pairing duty, not because his game has fallen off that much but because those ahead of him are that excellent. Cale Makar and Devon Toews form one of the best pairings in the NHL, and they are a tandem who this generation of Avalanche fans will rightfully wax poetic about in decades to come. Elsewhere, having the trio of Samuel Girard, Josh Manson and Bowen Byram fighting for second-pairing minutes indicates Colorado's embarrassment of defensive riches. Byram seems primed to really break out if he can finally stay healthy.

>GOALTENDING

Alexandar Georgiev didn't get much love for a standout first season in Colorado – he finished seventh in Vezina Trophy voting – but he was exceptional. Only two goaltenders had a higher goals saved above average at 5-on-5 last season. Backup Pavel Francouz has shown he's a capable hand, too. On a team as gifted as the Avalanche, the keepers are simply required to give the skaters up front a chance to win each night. Georgiev and Francouz do exactly that.

>SPECIAL TEAMS

There's good reason to talk about the power play, which is among the league's most fearsome, but, at the same time, there's also valid concern about the penalty kill. For a club with few weaknesses, Colorado was particularly vulnerable shorthanded and was in the bottom half of the league last season on the PK, killing just 79.0 percent of their penalties. It shouldn't go overlooked, either, that the Avs' most-used penalty-killing forward, J.T. Compher, left this summer. Someone needs to step into that role and provide stability.

>INTANGIBLES

Elite team speed has allowed the Avalanche to exploit the long change. Over the past three seasons, only the Edmonton Oilers have scored more second-period goals. Speaking of speed, the Avs are among the clubs that don't mind turning contests into track meets, particularly because MacKinnon and Makar belong to the rare breed who seem to skate faster with the puck on their stick.

CUP ODDS

14/1

>ROOKIES

A career year in the AHL set the stage for Jean-Luc Foudy to get a nine-game taste of NHL action, and he'll have a chance to prove his staying power at some point this season. Top teams in the cap era only stay as good as the youngsters they can shepherd into big-league roles, and the speedy and dynamic Foudy is in pole position to become part of the Avalanche's next wave.

>X-FACTOR

Given he's fooled us more than once, perhaps it's silly to expect much out of Jonathan Drouin. But how can there not be more there? Colorado executed the successful reclamation project of Drouin's fellow 2013 draftee Valeri Nichushkin, so maybe a reunion with QMJHL Halifax teammate MacKinnon will provide Drouin, a third-overall pick, with the spark he desperately needs.

>THE BRASS

Chris MacFarland took over as GM just as the cap crunch was reaching its most difficult point, but he's managed to avoid the pitfalls that destroy a roster. He'll have to worry about an extension for Toews, but that's a problem for next summer.

DEPTH CHART | 2023-24

LEFT WING	CENTER	RIGHT WING
1. Gabriel Landeskog	1. Nathan MacKinnon	1. Mikko Rantanen
2. Artturi Lehkonen	2. Ryan Johansen	2. Valeri Nichushkin
3. Jonathan Drouin	3. Ross Colton	3. Logan O'Connor
4. Miles Wood	4. Ben Meyers	4. Fredrik Olofsson
5. Andrew Cogliano	5. Jean-Luc Foudy	5. Chris Wagner

DEFENSE		GOALIE
1. Cale Makar	6. Jack Johnson	1. Alexandar Georgiev
2. Devon Toews	7. Brad Hunt	2. Pavel Francouz
3. Bowen Byram	8. Kurtis MacDermid	3. Justus Annunen
4. Samuel Girard	9. Keaton Middleton	INJURED
5. Josh Manson	10. Sam Malinski	INDICATES NEW ARRIVAL

KEY DEPARTURES & UNSIGNED UFAs J.T. Compher, LW; Evan Rodrigues, C; Alex Newhook, C, Erik Johnson, D

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FUTURE WATCH

DRAFTING HASN'T EXACTLY BEEN a priority for the Avs lately, but when you get that Stanley Cup ring, that's not really a problem. Colorado is a win-now team, and its pipeline reflects that, though the 2023 draft class offered a little more. The Avs had two first-rounders, grabbing a big center in Calum Ritchie and mobile D-man in Mikhail Gulyayev – but they still only made five picks overall. Given the youth of Bowen Byram (and even Cale Makar, really), Colorado has time to be patient.

TOP 10 PROSPECTS

1. Calum Ritchie, C
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Oshawa (OHL)
He has an NHL frame but needs to be better at using it to maximize his very evident skill set.
Acquired 27th overall, 2023 **NHL** '26-27

2. Mikhail Gulyayev, D
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Omsk Jr. (Rus.)
His skating is incredible – he can cut back and shift gears in an instant. He lacks size, though.
Acquired 31st overall, 2023 **NHL** '26-27

3. Oskar Olausson, LW
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Colorado (AHL)
Uptick in playoff production after modest rookie AHL season. Makes space with clever movement.
Acquired 28th overall, 2021 **NHL** '24-25

4. Jean-Luc Foudy, C
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** Colorado (AHL)
On the short list for NHL work this season. Effortless skater backs off or totally burns defenders.
Acquired 75th overall, 2020 **NHL** '23-24

5. Sean Behrens, D
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Denver (NCHC)
Possesses good first pass and can skate the puck to safety. No rush to pluck him out of NCAA.
Acquired 61st overall, 2021 **NHL** '25-26

6. Justus Annunen, G
Age 23 **2022-23 Team** Colorado (AHL)
Vastly improved AHL numbers. Avs preparing for him to assume backup duty a year from now.
Acquired 64th overall, 2018 **NHL** '24-25

7. Sampo Ranta, LW
Age 23 **2022-23 Team** Colorado (AHL)
Former NCAA star left for Swedish League after decent AHL season. Colorado retained his rights.
Acquired 78th overall, 2018 **NHL** '24-25

8. Colby Ambrosio, C
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** Boston College (HE)
Production stalled in his junior NCAA season. He has a knack for wowing with the puck on his stick.
Acquired 118th overall, 2020 **NHL** '25-26

9. Matt Stienburg, C
Age 22 **2022-23 Team** Cornell (ECAC)
Big drop in NCAA output, but he's a responsible, complete player. Coaches appreciate his game.
Acquired 63rd overall, 2019 **NHL** '25-26

10. Chris Romaine, D
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Green Bay (USHL)
Mobile, defense-first defender spent development year in USHL. Bound for NCAA Providence.
Acquired 193rd overall, 2022 **NHL** '27-28

SCHEDULE | 2023-24

Wed, Oct 11	@ Los Angeles	10:00 PM
Sat, Oct 14	@ San Jose	10:00 PM
Tue, Oct 17	@ Seattle	10:00 PM
Thu, Oct 19	vs Chicago	10:30 PM
Sat, Oct 21	vs Carolina	9:00 PM
Tue, Oct 24	@ NY Islanders	8:00 PM
Thu, Oct 26	@ Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Sun, Oct 29	@ Buffalo	7:00 PM
Wed, Nov 1	vs St. Louis	9:30 PM
Sat, Nov 4	@ Vegas	10:00 PM
Tue, Nov 7	vs New Jersey	10:00 PM
Thu, Nov 9	vs Seattle	9:00 PM
Sat, Nov 11	vs St. Louis	9:00 PM
Mon, Nov 13	@ Seattle	10:00 PM
Wed, Nov 15	vs Anaheim	9:00 PM
Sat, Nov 18	@ Dallas	9:00 PM
Mon, Nov 20	@ Nashville	8:00 PM
Wed, Nov 22	vs Vancouver	10:00 PM
Fri, Nov 24	@ Minnesota	8:30 PM
Sat, Nov 25	vs Calgary	10:00 PM
Mon, Nov 27	vs Tampa Bay	9:00 PM
Thu, Nov 30	@ Arizona	9:00 PM
Sat, Dec 2	@ Anaheim	10:00 PM
Sun, Dec 3	@ Los Angeles	8:00 PM
Tue, Dec 5	vs Anaheim	9:00 PM
Thu, Dec 7	vs Winnipeg	9:00 PM
Sat, Dec 9	vs Philadelphia	9:00 PM
Mon, Dec 11	vs Calgary	9:30 PM
Wed, Dec 13	vs Buffalo	10:00 PM
Sat, Dec 16	@ Winnipeg	7:00 PM
Sun, Dec 17	vs San Jose	8:00 PM
Tue, Dec 19	@ Chicago	8:30 PM
Thu, Dec 21	vs Ottawa	9:00 PM
Sat, Dec 23	vs Arizona	9:00 PM
Wed, Dec 27	@ Arizona	9:00 PM
Fri, Dec 29	@ St. Louis	8:00 PM
Sun, Dec 31	vs San Jose	8:00 PM
Tue, Jan 2	vs NY Islanders	9:00 PM
Thu, Jan 4	@ Dallas	8:00 PM
Sat, Jan 6	vs Florida	4:00 PM
Mon, Jan 8	vs Boston	9:00 PM
Wed, Jan 10	vs Vegas	10:00 PM
Sat, Jan 13	@ Toronto	7:00 PM
Mon, Jan 15	@ Montreal	7:00 PM
Tue, Jan 16	@ Ottawa	7:00 PM
Thu, Jan 18	@ Boston	7:00 PM
Sat, Jan 20	@ Philadelphia	1:00 PM
Wed, Jan 24	vs Washington	9:30 PM
Fri, Jan 26	vs Los Angeles	9:00 PM
Mon, Feb 5	@ NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Tue, Feb 6	@ New Jersey	7:00 PM
Thu, Feb 8	@ Carolina	8:00 PM
Sat, Feb 10	@ Florida	6:00 PM
Tue, Feb 13	@ Washington	7:00 PM
Thu, Feb 15	@ Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Sun, Feb 18	vs Arizona	6:00 PM
Tue, Feb 20	vs Vancouver	9:00 PM
Thu, Feb 22	@ Detroit	7:00 PM
Sat, Feb 24	vs Toronto	7:00 PM
Tue, Feb 27	vs Dallas	9:00 PM
Thu, Feb 29	@ Chicago	9:00 PM
Sat, Mar 2	@ Nashville	8:00 PM
Mon, Mar 4	vs Chicago	9:00 PM
Wed, Mar 6	vs Detroit	9:30 PM
Fri, Mar 8	vs Minnesota	9:00 PM
Tue, Mar 12	@ Calgary	9:00 PM
Wed, Mar 13	@ Vancouver	10:30 PM
Sat, Mar 16	@ Edmonton	10:00 PM
Tue, Mar 19	@ St. Louis	8:00 PM
Fri, Mar 22	vs Columbus	9:00 PM
Sun, Mar 24	vs Pittsburgh	2:00 PM
Tue, Mar 26	vs Montreal	9:00 PM
Thu, Mar 28	vs NY Rangers	9:00 PM
Sat, Mar 30	vs Nashville	6:00 PM
Mon, Apr 1	@ Columbus	7:00 PM
Thu, Apr 4	@ Minnesota	8:00 PM
Fri, Apr 5	@ Edmonton	9:00 PM
Sun, Apr 7	vs Dallas	10:00 PM
Tue, Apr 9	vs Minnesota	9:30 PM
Sat, Apr 13	vs Winnipeg	4:00 PM
Sun, Apr 14	@ Vegas	3:30 PM
Thu, Apr 18	vs Edmonton	9:30 PM

RANTANEN: DAN HAMILTON-USA TODAY SPORTS; RITCHIE: BRANDON TAYLOR/OHL IMAGES

ORGANIZATIONAL ROSTER

COLORADO AVALANCHE

GOALIES	AGE	HT.	WT.	CATCHES	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	W-L-OT	GAA	SP
Justus Annunen	23	6-4	210	Left	Kempele, Fin.	64th overall (2018)	Colorado (AHL)	41	22-10-8	2.55	.916
Pavel Francouz	33	6-0	179	Right	Plzen, Cze.	Free Agent: signed 5/2/18	Colorado	16	8-7-1	2.61	.915
Alexandar Georgiev	27	6-1	178	Left	Ruse, Blr.	Trade: NYR 7/7/22	Colorado	62	40-16-6	2.53	.919
Arvid Holm	24	6-5	190	Left	Ljungby, Swe.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Manitoba (AHL)	35	18-11-4	2.67	.911
Trent Miner	22	6-1	185	Left	Brandon, Man.	202nd overall (2019)	Utah (ECHL)	37	17-15-3	3.04	.910
Shamil Shmakov	24	6-6	194	Left	Moscow, Rus.	202nd overall (2018)	Neftekamsk/Izhevsk (Rus.2)	DNP			
Ivan Zhyhalau	20	6-3	167	Right	Minsk, Blr.	225th overall (2022)	Kingston (OHL)	45	16-24-3	3.59	.889

DEFENSEMEN	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Wyatt Aamodt	25	6-0	201	Left	Hermantown, Minn.	Free Agent: signed 4/12/22	Colorado (AHL)	52	3	15	18	39
Jack Ahcan	26	5-8	180	Left	Savage, Minn.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Providence (AHL)	68	5	31	36	24
Sean Behrens	20	5-10	177	Left	Barrington, Ill.	61st overall (2021)	Denver (NCHC)	31	3	18	21	29
Bowen Byram	22	6-1	190	Left	Cranbrook, B.C.	4th overall (2019)	Colorado	42	10	14	24	38
Nate Clurman	25	6-2	205	Right	Boulder, Colo.	161st overall (2016)	Colorado (AHL)	57	3	12	15	32
Gianni Fairbrother	23	6-0	204	Left	Vancouver, B.C.	Trade: Mtl 6/27/23	Laval (AHL)	DNP				
Samuel Girard	25	5-10	170	Left	Roberval, Que.	Trade: Nsh 11/5/17	Colorado	76	6	31	37	16
Mikhail Gulyayev	18	5-10	172	Left	Novosibirsk, Rus.	31st overall (2023)	Omsk Jr. (Rus.)	22	2	23	25	18
Jeremy Hanzel	20	6-0	190	Left	Burnaby, B.C.	187th overall (2023)	Seattle (WHL)	66	13	35	48	65
Brad Hunt	35	5-9	177	Left	Maple Ridge, B.C.	Free Agent: signed 7/15/22	Colorado	47	4	6	10	12
Nikita Ishimnikov	18	6-3	194	Right	Snezhinsk, Rus.	155th overall (2023)	Yekaterinburg Jr. (Rus.)	41	11	7	18	18
Jack Johnson	36	6-1	227	Left	Indianapolis, Ind.	Trade: Chi 2/26/23	Chicago/Colorado	83	2	6	8	28
Kurtis MacDermid	29	6-5	233	Left	Quebec City, Que.	Trade: Sea 7/27/21	Colorado	44	1	5	6	55
Cale Makar	24	5-11	187	Right	Calgary, Alta.	4th overall (2017)	Colorado	60	17	49	66	30
Sam Malinski	25	5-11	190	Right	Lakeville, Minn.	Free Agent: signed 3/30/23	Cornell (ECAC)	34	8	18	26	29
Josh Manson	31	6-3	218	Right	Hinsdale, Ill.	Trade: Ana 3/14/22	Colorado	27	2	8	10	42
Keaton Middleton	25	6-6	240	Left	Edmonton, Alta.	Free Agent: signed 3/30/21	Colorado (AHL)	72	3	20	23	125
Chris Romaine	19	6-0	190	Right	Boston, Mass.	193rd overall (2022)	Omaha/Green Bay (USHL)	48	0	10	10	30
Corey Schueneman	28	5-11	197	Left	Milford, Mich.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Laval (AHL)	62	6	17	23	24
Devon Toews	29	6-1	191	Left	Abbotsford, B.C.	Trade: NYI 10/12/20	Colorado	80	7	43	50	26

CENTERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Colby Ambrosio	21	5-9	170	Right	Welland, Ont.	118th overall (2020)	Boston College (HE)	36	10	11	21	16
Callahan Burke	26	5-10	183	Right	Boxborough, Mass.	Free Agent: signed 12/17/21	Colorado (AHL)	70	16	23	39	18
Andrei Buyalsky	23	6-3	178	Left	Karaganda, Kaz.	92nd overall (2021)	Vermont (HE)	34	5	13	18	6
Andrew Cogliano	36	5-10	179	Left	Toronto, Ont.	Trade: SJ 3/21/22	Colorado	79	10	9	19	44
Ross Colton	27	6-0	194	Left	Robbinsville, N.J.	Trade: TB 6/28/23	Tampa Bay	81	16	16	32	50
Jean-Luc Foudy	21	5-11	177	Right	Scarborough, Ont.	75th overall (2020)	Colorado (AHL)	46	11	25	36	34
Maros Jedlicka	20	6-2	194	Left	Trnava, Svk.	219th overall (2023)	Zvolen (Svk.)	39	17	18	35	57
Ryan Johansen	31	6-3	218	Right	Vancouver, B.C.	Trade: Nsh 6/24/23	Nashville	55	12	16	28	32
Vladislav Kamenev	27	6-2	194	Left	Orsk, Rus.	Trade: Nsh 11/5/17	CSKA Moscow (KHL)	60	22	19	41	36
Nathan MacKinnon	28	6-0	200	Right	Halifax, N.S.	1st overall (2013)	Colorado	71	42	69	111	30
Ben Meyers	24	5-11	194	Left	Delano, Minn.	Free Agent: signed 4/13/22	Colorado	39	4	0	4	6
Ondrej Pavel	23	6-2	205	Left	Prague, Cze.	Free Agent: signed 3/30/23	Minnesota State (CCHA)	39	6	9	15	34
Calum Ritchie	18	6-2	185	Right	Oakville, Ont.	27th overall (2023)	Oshawa (OHL)	59	24	35	59	35
Matt Stienburg	22	6-1	182	Right	Halifax, N.S.	63rd overall (2019)	Cornell (ECAC)	18	2	5	7	18

LEFT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Jonathan Drouin	28	5-11	198	Left	Ste-Agathe, Que.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Montreal	58	2	27	29	18
Gabriel Landeskog	30	6-1	215	Left	Stockholm, Swe.	2nd overall (2011)	Colorado	DNP				
Artturi Lehkonen	28	5-11	179	Left	Piikkio, Fin.	Trade: Mtl 3/21/22	Colorado	64	21	30	51	28
Taylor Makar	22	6-3	190	Left	Calgary, Alta.	220th overall (2021)	UMass (HE)	32	10	2	12	54
Fredrik Olofsson	27	6-2	190	Left	Helsingborg, Swe.	Trade: Dal 6/15/23	Texas (AHL)	37	5	9	14	2
Sampo Ranta	23	6-2	195	Left	Naantali, Fin.	78th overall (2018)	Colorado (AHL)	58	11	11	22	22
Riley Tufte	25	6-6	230	Left	Coon Rapids, Minn.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Texas (AHL)	63	19	16	35	90
Miles Wood	28	6-2	195	Left	Buffalo, N.Y.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	New Jersey	76	13	14	27	76

RIGHT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Alex Beaucage	22	6-1	192	Right	Trois-Rivieres, Que.	78th overall (2019)	Colorado (AHL)	63	8	12	20	46
Nikolai Kovalenko	23	5-10	180	Left	Raleigh, N.C.	171st overall (2018)	Nizhny Novgorod (KHL)	56	21	33	54	36
Valeri Nichushkin	28	6-4	210	Left	Chelyabinsk, Rus.	Free Agent: signed 8/19/19	Colorado	53	17	30	47	2
Logan O'Connor	27	6-0	175	Right	Missouri City, Texas	Free Agent: signed 7/23/18	Colorado	82	9	17	26	37
Oskar Olausson	20	6-1	180	Left	Stockholm, Swe.	28th overall (2021)	Colorado (AHL)	63	11	9	20	30
Jason Polin	24	6-0	198	Right	Holt, Mich.	Free Agent: signed 3/29/23	Western Michigan (NCHC)	39	30	17	47	13
Mikko Rantanen	26	6-4	215	Left	Nousiainen, Fin.	10th overall (2015)	Colorado	82	55	50	105	82
Spencer Smallman	27	6-1	198	Right	Summerside, P.E.I.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Colorado (AHL)	61	13	13	26	29
Chris Wagner	32	6-0	192	Right	Walpole, Mass.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Providence (AHL)	62	19	12	31	69

COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS

JOHNNY GAUDREAU

BY **BRIAN HEDGER**

THE BLUE JACKETS' ABYSMAL 25-48-9 record last season suggests they're miles from competing. A closer look shows a big reason for their 31st-place finish. Columbus had 26 players sustain injuries, which culminated in a franchise-record 563 man-games lost. That easily surpassed the previous team record of 502 in 2014-15. The Blue Jackets could probably lose 300 man-games this season and still improve their performance by a significant amount. They also made changes to the coaching staff, replacing bench boss Brad Larsen and goaltending coach Manny Legace with Mike Babcock and former NHL goalie Niklas Backstrom, respectively.

As for the roster, the Blue Jackets improved with two off-season trades plus the draft. The trades added D-men Ivan Provorov and Damon Severson, while the draft netted University of Michigan center Adam Fantilli, a coveted prospect. Things are looking up again in Columbus, but in the brutal Metro Division, with its parity-riddled middle, the Jackets will be in tough to make the playoffs.

>OFFENSE

Johnny Gaudreau and Patrik Laine highlight a top line centered by Boone Jenner, who has surpassed 20 goals in each of the past two years. Kent Johnson and Kirill Marchenko could each take a leap forward in their second NHL spin, and Fantilli might be just the center they need. Others who can provide scoring include Alexandre Texier, Jack Roslovic, Cole Sillinger, Sean Kuraly and perhaps even Dmitri Voronkov – a Russian rookie who could center the third line if the Blue Jackets like what they see from the 23-year-old in camp.

2022-23 NUMBERS

RECORD
25-48-9 (.360)

OVERTIME
9-8

SHOOTOUT
1-1

OVERALL
31st

OFFENSE
2.60 GPG (30th)

DEFENSE
4.01 GAA (31st)

POWER PLAY
18.3% (26th)

PENALTY KILL
75.1% (25th)

CORSI FOR/60
53.37 (25th)

CORSI AGAINST/60
65.44 (31st)

ICE TIME LEAD (F)
B. Jenner (20:12)

ICE TIME LEAD (D)
Z. Werenski (23:36)

FAST FACTS

COACH
Mike Babcock

GM
Jarmo Kekalainen

ARENA
Nationwide Arena

CAPACITY
18,500

AHL AFFILIATE
Cleveland Monsters

ECHL AFFILIATE
None

PLAYOFF RECORD
10-10 (since 2019)

GAUDREAU: PERRY NELSON-USA TODAY SPORTS

COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS

ZACH WERENSKI

>DEFENSE

Defending is where the Jackets need the most help. Injuries to key D-men hurt last season – Zach Werenski was limited to 13 games and didn't play after Nov. 10 – but that wasn't the only reason they couldn't keep the puck out of the net. Confusion on systems and coverage assignments turned into easy goals for opposing teams far too often, and that's where Babcock should make the biggest impact. In his 17 years running NHL benches, Babcock's teams have allowed just over 220 goals per season. That would be about a 110-goal improvement from the 329 Columbus allowed last year. The talent for that kind of boost is available, but the responsibility won't fall on just the defensemen and goalies. It'll require a team-wide effort.

>GOALTENDING

Elvis Merzlikins and Daniil Tarasov should add celebratory back flips into their workout regimens. Nobody's had a better view of Columbus' defensive collapses than the goalies, who've been hung out to dry more than a well-worn swimsuit. Merzlikins must improve to make his $5.4-million cap hit worth the squeeze, but all Jackets goalies since 2021 have been torched to some degree. Improved defense will lead to better goaltending.

>SPECIAL TEAMS

The Blue Jackets finished near the bottom of the league on both the power play and penalty kill. Columbus went 0-for-October (0-for-25) but steadily improved. Subtracting the hideous start, the Jackets scored at a 20.6-percent clip on the PP from November through April. Along with keeping associate coach Pascal Vincent, who interviewed for NHL head coaching jobs with the New York Rangers and Calgary, there's reason to believe Columbus is due for a big improvement. The Jackets finished 25th on the PK (75.1 percent), but adding Provorov and Severson will help.

>INTANGIBLES

How the Blue Jackets respond to the culture shock of playing for Babcock – who's been labelled a "bully" by multiple previous players – will be the season's biggest storyline. The Blue Jackets never quit on Larsen despite GM Jarmo Kekalainen citing "team culture" as a reason he replaced his coach with the hardline Babcock and his championship resume. Soon, we're going to learn how that bold strategy works out.

CUP ODDS

75/1

>ROOKIES

The Blue Jackets are usually one of the NHL's youngest teams, and that was certainly the case last year, with a franchise-record 18 rookies playing at least one game. They got older with Provorov and Severson, but there's still room for rookies. Fantilli, the No. 3 pick in the draft, tops a tantalizing list that includes Voronkov, defensemen David Jiricek and Stanislav Svozil, center Hunter McKown and others.

>X-FACTOR

Merzlikins and Tarasov have shown flashes of brilliance in net, but they've also struggled through frustrating slumps sparked by facing waves of 'Grade A' chances. Sergei Bobrovsky isn't walking back into the dressing room any time soon, so, for better or worse, it's up to Elvis and 'Tarry.'

>THE BRASS

Babcock's under contract for two years, putting him on the same renewal schedule as Kekalainen and president of hockey operations John Davidson. That screams "win now," but that's a label that irritates Kekalainen. He remains focused on fortifying the roster with the aim of bringing the Stanley Cup to Columbus.

DEPTH CHART | 2023-24

LEFT WING	CENTER	RIGHT WING
1. Johnny Gaudreau	1. Boone Jenner	1. Patrik Laine
2. Kirill Marchenko	2. Adam Fantilli	2. Kent Johnson
3. Alexandre Texier	3. Sean Kuraly	3. Jack Roslovic
4. Eric Robinson	4. Cole Sillinger	4. Yegor Chinakhov
5. Emil Bemstrom	5. Liam Foudy	5. Mathieu Olivier

DEFENSE		GOALIE
1. Zach Werenski	6. Andrew Peeke	1. Elvis Merzlikins
2. Damon Severson	7. David Jiricek	2. Daniil Tarasov
3. Ivan Provorov	8. Jake Bean	3. Jet Greaves
4. Adam Boqvist	9. Nick Blankenburg	INJURED
5. Erik Gudbranson	10. Tim Berni	INDICATES NEW ARRIVAL

KEY DEPARTURES & UNSIGNED UFAs Gavin Bayreuther, D; Lane Pederson, C; Michael Hutchinson, G; Jon Gillies, G

WERENSKI: DAVID KIROUAC-USA TODAY SPORTS

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FUTURE WATCH

THE BLUE JACKETS DIDN'T think they'd be walking out of the 2023 NHL draft with Adam Fantilli, but sometimes life smiles at you. Getting the future No. 1 center they need was huge for the Jackets, who already have the promising Kent Johnson, Kirill Marchenko and Cole Sillinger up front. With blueliners David Jiricek, Stanislav Svozil and Denton Mateychuk as well, Columbus has a deep prospect pool. Is Daniil Tarasov the goalie of the future? That may be the only question.

TOP 10 PROSPECTS

1. Adam Fantilli, C
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Michigan (Big Ten)
Combines old-school power forward traits with modern-day speed. He's unafraid of dirty work.
Acquired 3rd overall, 2023 **NHL** '23-24

2. David Jiricek, D
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Cleveland (AHL)
Big shot and moves well. A stellar AHL season suggests he'll be ready for the NHL this year.
Acquired 6th overall, 2022 **NHL** '23-24

3. Denton Mateychuk, D
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Moose Jaw (WHL)
High-character player upped his all-around game, adding defense to scoring and skating skill.
Acquired 12th overall, 2022 **NHL** '25-26

4. Gavin Brindley, C
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Michigan (Big Ten)
Fast, feisty and will do what it takes to win. He's just 5-foot-9, but never quits on a play.
Acquired 34th overall, 2023 **NHL** '26-27

5. Corson Ceulemans, D
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Wisconsin (Big Ten)
Right-shot 'D' who uses his size well, particularly on the attack. Needs to work on defensive game.
Acquired 25th overall, 2021 **NHL** '25-26

6. Stanislav Svozil, D
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Regina (WHL)
He has the tools and is effective in every zone. Consistency and bulking up are key next steps.
Acquired 69th overall, 2021 **NHL** '25-26

7. William Whitelaw, RW
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Youngstown (USHL)
He lacks NHL size but not the speed and shot. Spending time in the NCAA will aid development.
Acquired 66th overall, 2023 **NHL** '27-28

8. Dmitri Voronkov, LW
Age 23 **2022-23 Team** Kazan (KHL)
Makes up for mediocre mobility with size and fearless mentality. Heading to the AHL from KHL.
Acquired 114th overall, 2019 **NHL** '24-25

9. Jordan Dumais, RW
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Halifax (QMJHL)
Top 'Q' scorer oozes with talent, vision and smarts, but his skating is a worry at top levels.
Acquired 96th overall, 2022 **NHL** '26-27

10. Luca Del Bel Belluz, C
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Sarnia (OHL)
The innate ability is there. Improvement of fundamentals will determine the heights he reaches.
Acquired 44th overall, 2022 **NHL** '25-26

SCHEDULE | 2023-24

Thu, Oct 12	vs Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Sat, Oct 14	vs NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Mon, Oct 16	vs Detroit	7:00 PM
Fri, Oct 20	vs Calgary	7:00 PM
Sat, Oct 21	@ Minnesota	8:00 PM
Tue, Oct 24	vs Anaheim	6:30 PM
Thu, Oct 26	@ Montreal	7:00 PM
Sat, Oct 28	vs NY Islanders	7:00 PM
Mon, Oct 30	@ Dallas	8:00 PM
Thu, Nov 2	vs Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Sat, Nov 4	@ Washington	7:00 PM
Mon, Nov 6	@ Florida	7:00 PM
Thu, Nov 9	vs Dallas	7:00 PM
Sat, Nov 11	@ Detroit	1:00 PM
Sun, Nov 12	@ NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Tue, Nov 14	vs Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Thu, Nov 16	vs Arizona	7:00 PM
Sat, Nov 18	@ Washington	7:00 PM
Sun, Nov 19	@ Philadelphia	5:30 PM
Wed, Nov 22	vs Chicago	7:00 PM
Fri, Nov 24	@ New Jersey	7:00 PM
Sun, Nov 26	@ Carolina	5:00 PM
Mon, Nov 27	vs Boston	7:00 PM
Wed, Nov 29	vs Montreal	7:00 PM
Fri, Dec 1	vs Ottawa	7:00 PM
Sun, Dec 3	@ Boston	7:00 PM
Tue, Dec 5	vs Los Angeles	7:00 PM
Thu, Dec 7	@ NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Fri, Dec 8	vs St. Louis	7:00 PM
Sun, Dec 10	vs Florida	1:00 PM
Thu, Dec 14	@ Toronto	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 16	vs New Jersey	7:00 PM
Tue, Dec 19	@ Buffalo	7:00 PM
Thu, Dec 21	vs Washington	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 23	vs Toronto	7:00 PM
Wed, Dec 27	@ New Jersey	7:00 PM
Fri, Dec 29	vs Toronto	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 30	@ Buffalo	5:00 PM
Tue, Jan 2	vs Boston	7:00 PM
Thu, Jan 4	@ Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Sat, Jan 6	vs Minnesota	7:00 PM
Tue, Jan 9	@ Winnipeg	8:00 PM
Sat, Jan 13	vs Seattle	7:00 PM
Mon, Jan 15	vs Vancouver	1:00 PM
Fri, Jan 19	vs New Jersey	7:00 PM
Tue, Jan 23	@ Edmonton	9:00 PM
Thu, Jan 25	@ Calgary	9:00 PM
Sat, Jan 27	@ Vancouver	10:00 PM
Sun, Jan 28	@ Seattle	9:00 PM
Tue, Jan 30	@ St. Louis	8:00 PM
Sat, Feb 10	vs Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Tue, Feb 13	@ Ottawa	7:00 PM
Sat, Feb 17	@ San Jose	10:30 PM
Tue, Feb 20	@ Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Wed, Feb 21	@ Anaheim	10:00 PM
Fri, Feb 23	vs Buffalo	7:00 PM
Sun, Feb 25	vs NY Rangers	6:00 PM
Wed, Feb 28	@ NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Thu, Feb 29	vs Carolina	7:00 PM
Sat, Mar 2	@ Chicago	8:00 PM
Mon, Mar 4	vs Vegas	7:00 PM
Tue, Mar 5	@ Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Thu, Mar 7	vs Edmonton	7:00 PM
Sat, Mar 9	vs Nashville	12:30 PM
Tue, Mar 12	@ Montreal	7:00 PM
Thu, Mar 14	vs Ottawa	7:00 PM
Sat, Mar 16	vs San Jose	7:00 PM
Sun, Mar 17	vs Winnipeg	6:00 PM
Tue, Mar 19	@ Detroit	7:00 PM
Fri, Mar 22	@ Colorado	9:00 PM
Sat, Mar 23	@ Vegas	10:30 PM
Tue, Mar 26	@ Arizona	10:00 PM
Thu, Mar 28	@ Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Sat, Mar 30	vs Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Mon, Apr 1	vs Colorado	7:00 PM
Thu, Apr 4	vs NY Islanders	7:00 PM
Sat, Apr 6	vs Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Sun, Apr 7	@ Carolina	5:00 PM
Tue, Apr 9	@ Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Thu, Apr 11	@ Florida	7:00 PM
Sat, Apr 13	@ Nashville	8:00 PM
Tue, Apr 16	vs Carolina	7:00 PM

FANTILLI: DOUGLAS JOHNSON/HOCKEY HALL OF FAME; LAINE: JOHN E. SOKOLOWSKI-USA TODAY SPORTS

ORGANIZATIONAL ROSTER

COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS

GOALIES	AGE	HT.	WT.	CATCHES	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	W-L-OT	GAA	SP	
Jet Greaves	22	6-0	184	Left	Cambridge, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 2/20/22	Cleveland (AHL)	43	19-16-5	3.08	.899	
Sergei Ivanov	19	5-11	165	Left	Chernushka, Rus.	138th overall (2022)	SKA-Neva St. Pete. (Rus.2)	16	5-9-2	3.07	.900	
Nolan Lalonde	19	6-1	190	Left	Kingston, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 10/2/22	Erie (OHL)	41	11-20-6	4.10	.868	
Elvis Merzlikins	29	6-3	183	Left	Riga, Lat.	76th overall (2014)	Columbus	30	7-18-2	4.23	.876	
Melvin Strahl	18	6-3	163	Left	Solleftea, Swe.	156th overall (2023)	Modo Jr. (Swe.)	23	10-12-0	3.35	.883	
Daniil Tarasov	24	6-5	196	Left	Novokuznetsk, Rus.	86th overall (2017)	Columbus	17	4-11-1	3.91	.892	
DEFENSEMEN	**AGE**	**HT.**	**WT.**	**SHOOTS**	**BORN**	**ACQUIRED**	**2022-23**	**GP**	**G**	**A**	**P**	**PIM**
Jake Bean	25	6-1	196	Left	Calgary, Alta.	Trade: Car 7/23/21	Columbus	14	1	5	6	6
Tim Berni	23	6-0	192	Left	Mannedorf, Sui.	159th overall (2018)	Columbus	59	1	2	3	34
Ole Bjorgvik-Holm	21	6-4	204	Left	Oslo, Nor.	145th overall (2020)	Cleveland (AHL)	25	0	2	2	6
Marcus Bjork	25	6-4	211	Right	Umea, Swe.	Free Agent: signed 5/24/22	Cleveland (AHL)	44	7	8	15	18
Nick Blankenburg	25	5-9	177	Right	Washington, Mich.	Free Agent: signed 4/8/22	Columbus	36	4	10	14	16
Adam Boqvist	23	6-0	182	Right	Falun, Swe.	Trade: Chi 7/23/21	Columbus	46	5	19	24	8
Corson Ceulemans	20	6-2	198	Right	Regina, Sask.	25th overall (2021)	Wisconsin (Big Ten)	33	8	15	23	38
Jake Christiansen	24	6-0	193	Left	West Vancouver, B.C.	Free Agent: signed 3/4/20	Cleveland (AHL)	50	11	23	34	53
Erik Gudbranson	31	6-5	222	Right	Ottawa, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Columbus	70	1	12	13	57
Aidan Hreschuk	20	5-11	188	Left	Long Beach, Calif.	Trade: Car 3/21/22	Boston College (HE)	35	1	5	6	20
David Jiricek	19	6-4	199	Right	Klatovy, Cze.	6th overall (2022)	Cleveland (AHL)	55	6	32	38	36
Samuel Knazko	21	6-1	198	Left	Trencin, Svk.	78th overall (2020)	Cleveland (AHL)	50	1	20	21	17
Nikolai Makarov	20	6-1	190	Left	Perm, Rus.	132nd overall (2021)	K.A. Moscow Jr. (Rus.)	25	1	7	8	43
Denton Mateychuk	19	5-11	188	Left	Winnipeg, Man.	12th overall (2022)	Moose Jaw (WHL)	63	8	57	65	28
Andrew Peeke	25	6-3	210	Right	Parkland, Fla.	34th overall (2016)	Columbus	80	6	7	13	22
Ivan Provorov	26	6-1	201	Left	Yaroslavl, Rus.	Trade: Phi 6/6/23	Philadelphia	82	6	21	27	24
Guillaume Richard	20	6-2	170	Left	Quebec City, Que.	101st overall (2021)	Providence (HE)	31	1	7	8	6
Damon Severson	29	6-2	205	Right	Melville, Sask.	Trade: NJ 6/9/23	New Jersey	81	7	26	33	38
Andrew Strathmann	18	5-11	187	Left	Waukegan, Ill.	98th overall (2023)	Youngstown (USHL)	56	3	35	38	102
Robbie Stucker	25	6-3	178	Right	St. Paul, Minn.	210th overall (2017)	Vermont (HE)	33	3	12	15	21
Stanislav Svozil	20	6-0	183	Left	Prerov, Cze.	69th overall (2021)	Regina (WHL)	56	11	67	78	24
Billy Sweezey	27	6-1	206	Right	Hanson, Mass.	Free Agent: signed 3/7/22	Cleveland (AHL)	56	0	11	11	70
Zach Werenski	26	6-2	213	Left	Grosse Pointe, Mich.	8th overall (2015)	Columbus	13	3	5	8	0
CENTERS	**AGE**	**HT.**	**WT.**	**SHOOTS**	**BORN**	**ACQUIRED**	**2022-23**	**GP**	**G**	**A**	**P**	**PIM**
Tyler Angle	23	5-10	166	Left	Niagara Falls, Ont.	212th overall (2019)	Cleveland (AHL)	66	11	12	23	28
Gavin Brindley	18	5-9	165	Right	Fort Myers, Fla.	34th overall (2023)	Michigan (Big Ten)	41	12	26	38	22
Luca Del Bel Belluz	19	6-1	184	Left	Woodbridge, Ont.	44th overall (2022)	Mississauga/Sarnia (OHL)	66	40	47	87	14
Josh Dunne	24	6-4	211	Left	O'Fallon, Mo.	Free Agent: signed 3/14/21	Cleveland (AHL)	65	20	17	37	71
Adam Fantilli	18	6-2	195	Left	Nobleton, Ont.	3rd overall (2023)	Michigan (Big Ten)	36	30	35	65	67
Liam Foudy	23	6-2	188	Left	Scarborough, Ont.	18th overall (2018)	Columbus	62	7	7	14	8
Brendan Gaunce	29	6-3	219	Left	Sudbury, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/31/21	Cleveland (AHL)	17	7	11	18	18
Boone Jenner	30	6-2	203	Left	Dorchester, Ont.	37th overall (2011)	Columbus	68	26	19	45	51
Kent Johnson	20	6-0	175	Left	Port Moody, B.C.	5th overall (2021)	Columbus	79	16	24	40	14
Oiva Keskinen	19	6-0	180	Left	Ylojarvi, Fin.	194th overall (2023)	Tappara Jr. (Fin.)	38	20	21	41	8
Sean Kuraly	30	6-2	213	Left	Niagara Falls, N.Y.	Free Agent: signed 7/28/21	Columbus	71	11	9	20	68
Hunter McKown	21	6-1	205	Right	San Jose, Calif.	Free Agent: signed 3/20/23	Colorado College (NCHC)	38	21	7	28	30
Luca Pinelli	18	5-9	165	Left	Stoney Creek, Ont.	114th overall (2023)	Ottawa (OHL)	67	29	34	63	60
Jack Roslovic	26	6-1	200	Right	Columbus, Ohio	Trade: Wpg 1/23/21	Columbus	77	11	33	44	10
Cole Sillinger	20	6-1	201	Left	Columbus, Ohio	12th overall (2021)	Columbus	64	3	8	11	22
Alexandre Texier	24	6-1	186	Left	St-Martin-d'Heres, Fra.	45th overall (2017)	Zurich (Sui.)	46	13	22	35	30
Calvin Thurkauf	26	6-2	204	Left	Zug, Sui.	185th overall (2016)	Lugano (Sui.)	52	11	8	19	61
LEFT WINGERS	**AGE**	**HT.**	**WT.**	**SHOOTS**	**BORN**	**ACQUIRED**	**2022-23**	**GP**	**G**	**A**	**P**	**PIM**
Ben Boyd	20	6-3	199	Left	Halifax, N.S.	165th overall (2021)	Saint Mary's (USports)	9	0	1	1	14
Johnny Gaudreau	30	5-9	165	Left	Salem, N.J.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Columbus	80	21	53	74	22
Patrik Laine	25	6-5	205	Right	Tampere, Fin.	Trade: Wpg 1/23/21	Columbus	55	22	30	52	16
James Malatesta	20	5-9	191	Left	Montreal, Que.	133rd overall (2021)	Quebec (QMJHL)	55	37	29	66	64
Tyler Peddle	18	6-1	196	Left	Halifax, N.S.	224th overall (2023)	Drummondville (QMJHL)	64	24	17	41	36
Mikael Pyyhtia	21	6-0	166	Left	Turku, Fin.	114th overall (2020)	TPS (Fin.)	47	7	13	20	16
Eric Robinson	28	6-2	205	Left	Bellmawr, N.J.	Free Agent: signed 3/26/18	Columbus	72	12	12	24	6
Dmitri Voronkov	23	6-4	190	Left	Angarsk, Rus.	114th overall (2019)	Kazan (KHL)	54	18	13	31	51
RIGHT WINGERS	**AGE**	**HT.**	**WT.**	**SHOOTS**	**BORN**	**ACQUIRED**	**2022-23**	**GP**	**G**	**A**	**P**	**PIM**
Emil Bemstrom	24	6-0	195	Right	Nykoping, Swe.	117th overall (2017)	Columbus	55	7	15	22	6
Cameron Butler	21	6-4	210	Right	Ottawa, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 3/16/23	Oshawa (OHL)	63	27	28	55	119
Yegor Chinakhov	22	6-1	204	Left	Omsk, Rus.	21st overall (2020)	Columbus	30	4	9	13	10
Justin Danforth	30	5-9	190	Right	Oshawa, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 5/3/21	Columbus	6	2	1	3	4
Kirill Dolzhenkov	19	6-6	234	Left	Moscow, Rus.	109th overall (2022)	K.A. Moscow Jr. (Rus.)	50	18	27	45	44
Jordan Dumais	19	5-8	169	Right	Montreal, Que.	96th overall (2022)	Halifax (QMJHL)	64	54	86	140	6
James Fisher	19	6-2	170	Right	Burlington, Mass.	203rd overall (2022)	Youngstown (USHL)	42	3	7	10	28
Trey Fix-Wolansky	24	5-7	191	Right	Edmonton, Alta.	204th overall (2018)	Cleveland (AHL)	61	29	42	71	40
Kirill Marchenko	23	6-3	197	Right	Barnaul, Rus.	49th overall (2018)	Columbus	59	21	4	25	16
Carson Meyer	26	5-11	184	Right	Powell, Ohio	179th overall (2017)	Cleveland (AHL)	34	9	17	26	36
Mathieu Olivier	26	6-1	217	Right	Biloxi, Miss.	Trade: Nsh 6/30/22	Columbus	66	5	10	15	81
Martin Rysavy	20	6-2	225	Left	Prerov, Cze.	197th overall (2021)	Moose Jaw (WHL)	47	11	22	33	19
William Whitelaw	18	5-9	173	Right	Rosemount, Minn.	66th overall (2023)	Youngstown (USHL)	62	36	25	61	90

DALLAS STARS

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BY **STEPHEN MESERVE**

AFTER MAKING IT TO Game 6 of the conference final against the eventual Stanley Cup champions, the Stars are ready to run it back with a strong returning core. Already boasting a prodigious scoring crew, Dallas added one-time 40-goal scorer Matt Duchene as a UFA, but the team did little to change the 'D,' a stout group in the regular season who got overmatched against Vegas.

This is the Cup window for Dallas, and it may be the last for some of the vets, especially Jamie Benn, Tyler Seguin, Ryan Suter and Joe Pavelski. Those vets will mix with exciting young talent, such as Miro Heiskanen and Jason Robertson, the franchise's first 100-point scorer since it moved from Minnesota. This is one of the few clubs that will start the year on the Stanley Cup short list based on last year's playoffs, and anything less than a title will feel like a disappointment if the year goes as planned.

>OFFENSE

Dallas was characterized a year ago as a one-line team: Robertson, Pavelski and Roope Hintz made the offense hum. But after the revitalization of Benn, the emergence of Wyatt Johnston and a big step up from Heiskanen as he came out of John Klingberg's shadow, no one can make such a claim now. Still not satisfied, Dallas made a shrewd move, perhaps the best of the UFA class, to add Duchene on a team-friendly one-year deal. The Stars also re-signed Evgenii Dadonov to a two-year pact. Further additions Sam Steel and Craig Smith keep options open in the bottom six to either look to veterans or call on a stable of on-the-cusp forwards in the AHL, such as Logan Stankoven or Mavrik Bourque.

2022-23 NUMBERS

RECORD
47-21-14 (.659)

OVERTIME
4-11

SHOOTOUT
4-3

OVERALL
8th

OFFENSE
3.43 GPG (7th)

DEFENSE
2.62 GAA (3rd)

POWER PLAY
25.0% (5th)

PENALTY KILL
83.5% (3rd)

CORSI FOR/60
58.9 (8th)

CORSI AGAINST/60
55.09 (15th)

ICE TIME LEAD (F)
J. Robertson (18:50)

ICE TIME LEAD (D)
M. Heiskanen (25:29)

FAST FACTS

COACH
Peter DeBoer

GM
Jim Nill

ARENA
American Airlines Center

CAPACITY
18,532

AHL AFFILIATE
Texas Stars

ECHL AFFILIATE
Idaho Steelheads

PLAYOFF RECORD
34-29 (since 2019)

OETTINGER: SERGEI BELSKI-USA TODAY SPORTS

JASON ROBERTSON

>DEFENSE

Dallas allowed the third-fewest goals in the league last year and returns a very similar group, subtracting Colin Miller and adding Gavin Bayreuther. Both are marginal moves compared to the biggest question on defense: polarizing blueliner Suter. He enters the third year of a four-year deal and is better suited now for a third-pairing role as a veteran defenseman who can elevate in times of injury. However, his contract and veteran status have planted him on a pairing with franchise D-man Heiskanen. By not buying Suter out in June, Dallas looks likely to put him in the same position this year despite defensive deficiencies. Finally, Dallas' splashy 2022 acquisition, Nils Lundkvist, will need to establish himself firmly after he was a healthy scratch for the entire post-season.

>GOALTENDING

The Stars return with the top three goalies they finished with last year. Jake Oettinger is the undisputed No. 1 after taking the team to the conference final and stealing a few games along the way. Scott Wedgewood sits behind him but missed significant time to injury. He needs to stay healthy to spell Oettinger. No. 3 Matt Murray begins his second pro season as the starter for AHL Texas.

>SPECIAL TEAMS

If you look solely at the regular season, Dallas would be incredibly happy with their special teams, which finished in the top five on both sides. However, the Vegas series showed the Stars were not on the level necessary to win the Cup. After having the now-traded Miller manning the second PP unit for most of the year, it's time for Lundkvist or Thomas Harley to step up into the role of second PP quarterback behind Heiskanen. Newcomer Duchene will add to the PP's scoring punch.

>INTANGIBLES

Dallas has a run-it-back mentality after two strong playoff showings. The Stars have been there before and know what it takes to get there again. Part of that is the established nature of the lineup. There is only one true training-camp question, and that's the rookie Stankoven. Otherwise, the roster is set. Confidence and consistency will be watchwords for the Stars as they try to replicate what they achieved last season.

>ROOKIES

Last season, Johnston surprised with an 82-game campaign in which he put up 41 points. This season, Stankoven makes the pro jump and could crack the opening-night roster. Bourque had a solid year with AHL Texas, especially after Christmas, and he should get called up during the season.

>X-FACTOR

It is the veterans again making or breaking Dallas' hopes this season. Benn had a career resurgence, notching 78 points. Seguin seems capped at 50 points after extensive surgeries. Aforementioned questions around Suter's usage will follow the team all year. Can they all take after the ageless Pavelski and find youthful streaks?

CUP ODDS

10/1

>THE BRASS

Coach Peter DeBoer has a tendency to make a splash in Year 1 in a new city – that was the case in New Jersey and San Jose, where he made trips to the final – but then step back in Year 2. He's never hoisted the Stanley Cup during his 15-year career, but this collection of players will give him an excellent chance. Jim Nill is solidly entrenched as the team's GM and is fresh off a well-deserved GM of the Year Award. He's entering his 11th season with the team and received a two-year extension in late July.

DEPTH CHART | 2023-24

LEFT WING	CENTER	RIGHT WING
1. Jason Robertson	1. Roope Hintz	1. Joe Pavelski
2. Matt Duchene	2. Tyler Seguin	2. Mason Marchment
3. Jamie Benn	3. Wyatt Johnston	3. Evgenii Dadonov
4. Sam Steel	4. Radek Faksa	4. Ty Dellandrea
5. Logan Stankoven	5. Craig Smith	5. Mavrik Bourque

DEFENSE		GOALIE
1. Miro Heiskanen	6. Nils Lundkvist	1. Jake Oettinger
2. Ryan Suter	7. Joel Hanley	2. Scott Wedgewood
3. Esa Lindell	8. Gavin Bayreuther	3. Matt Murray
4. Thomas Harley	9. Alexander Petrovic	INJURED
5. Jani Hakanpaa	10. Derrick Pouliot	INDICATES NEW ARRIVAL

KEY DEPARTURES & UNSIGNED UFAs Max Domi, C; Joel Kiviranta, LW; Colin Miller, D; Luke Glendening, C

ROBERTSON: JAMES CAREY LAUDER-USA TODAY SPORTS

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FUTURE WATCH

DALLAS HAS DONE SOME excellent drafting in recent years – including Heiskanen, Oettinger and Robertson all in a row in 2017 – and the Stars haven't let up, nabbing Wyatt Johnston, Logan Stankoven and Lian Bichsel. The 2023 class was smaller, and the team didn't pick until the second round, but as per usual, the group had a distinct OHL flavor to it, led by offensive D-man Tristan Bertucci and two-way center Brad Gardiner. The competition for NHL spots will be fierce in the coming years.

TOP 10 PROSPECTS

1. Logan Stankoven, C
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Kamloops (WHL)
Excels playing in straight lines and driving to tough areas. Can contribute in all situations.
Acquired 47th overall, 2021 **NHL** '23-24

2. Thomas Harley, D
Age 22 **2022-23 Team** Texas (AHL)
Paired his offense with solid defense in AHL last season. He's elevated his game to NHL-caliber.
Acquired 18th overall, 2019 **NHL** '23-24

3. Mavrik Bourque, C
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** Texas (AHL)
It's like he has X-ray vision with the passing reads he makes. Stars will develop him patiently.
Acquired 30th overall, 2020 **NHL** '24-25

4. Lian Bichsel, D
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Leksand (Swe.)
Old-school physicality, and he'll step up to separate players from pucks. Low offensive ceiling.
Acquired 18th overall, 2022 **NHL** '25-26

5. Christian Kyrou, D
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Sarnia (OHL)
Spots and attacks holes on the rush, but he's hit-and-miss in his own zone. A work in progress.
Acquired 50th overall, 2022 **NHL** '26-27

6. Tristan Bertucci, D
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Flint (OHL)
He'll beat goalies clean with a blistering slapper, but his puck distribution is worrying at times.
Acquired 61st overall, 2023 **NHL** '26-27

7. Brad Gardiner, C
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Ottawa (OHL)
Won't be a top-line player, but coaches love his commitment and proficiency in his own zone.
Acquired 79th overall, 2023 **NHL** '26-27

8. Matej Blumel, RW
Age 23 **2022-23 Team** Texas (AHL)
Signed out of Czech League, he put up impressive AHL numbers. Needs to improve in hard areas.
Acquired Free agent, June 6, 2022 **NHL** '24-25

9. Ayrton Martino, LW
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** Clarkson (ECAC)
Anticipates well to find space and passing options. Needs to add strength to take the next step.
Acquired 73rd overall, 2021 **NHL** '25-26

10. Gavin White, D
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Peterborough (OHL)
Back-to-back OHL titles with two different teams. Solid two-way game and crisp breakout passer.
Acquired 115th overall, 2022 **NHL** '27-28

SCHEDULE | 2023-24

Thu, Oct 12	vs St. Louis	8:00 PM
Tue, Oct 17	@ Vegas	10:30 PM
Thu, Oct 19	@ Anaheim	10:00 PM
Sat, Oct 21	vs Philadelphia	8:00 PM
Tue, Oct 24	@ Pittsburgh	7:30 PM
Thu, Oct 26	vs Toronto	8:00 PM
Mon, Oct 30	vs Columbus	8:00 PM
Wed, Nov 1	@ Calgary	8:30 PM
Thu, Nov 2	@ Edmonton	9:00 PM
Sat, Nov 4	@ Vancouver	10:00 PM
Mon, Nov 6	vs Boston	8:00 PM
Thu, Nov 9	@ Columbus	7:00 PM
Sat, Nov 11	@ Winnipeg	4:00 PM
Sun, Nov 12	@ Minnesota	6:00 PM
Tue, Nov 14	vs Arizona	8:00 PM
Sat, Nov 18	vs Colorado	9:00 PM
Mon, Nov 20	vs NY Rangers	8:00 PM
Wed, Nov 22	vs Vegas	9:30 PM
Fri, Nov 24	vs Calgary	8:00 PM
Tue, Nov 28	@ Winnipeg	8:00 PM
Thu, Nov 30	@ Calgary	9:00 PM
Sat, Dec 2	vs Tampa Bay	2:00 PM
Mon, Dec 4	@ Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Wed, Dec 6	@ Florida	7:00 PM
Thu, Dec 7	@ Washington	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 9	vs Vegas	4:00 PM
Mon, Dec 11	vs Detroit	8:00 PM
Fri, Dec 15	vs Ottawa	8:00 PM
Sat, Dec 16	@ St. Louis	8:00 PM
Mon, Dec 18	vs Seattle	8:00 PM
Thu, Dec 21	vs Vancouver	8:00 PM
Sat, Dec 23	@ Nashville	3:00 PM
Wed, Dec 27	@ St. Louis	8:00 PM
Fri, Dec 29	vs Chicago	8:00 PM
Sun, Dec 31	vs Chicago	8:00 PM
Tue, Jan 2	vs Montreal	8:00 PM
Thu, Jan 4	vs Colorado	8:00 PM
Sat, Jan 6	vs Nashville	8:00 PM
Mon, Jan 8	@ Minnesota	8:00 PM
Wed, Jan 10	vs Minnesota	7:30 PM
Fri, Jan 12	vs Nashville	8:00 PM
Sat, Jan 13	@ Chicago	8:00 PM
Tue, Jan 16	vs Los Angeles	8:00 PM
Thu, Jan 18	@ Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Sat, Jan 20	@ New Jersey	7:00 PM
Sun, Jan 21	@ NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Tue, Jan 23	@ Detroit	7:00 PM
Thu, Jan 25	vs Anaheim	8:00 PM
Sat, Jan 27	vs Washington	2:00 PM
Tue, Feb 6	@ Buffalo	7:00 PM
Wed, Feb 7	@ Toronto	7:00 PM
Sat, Feb 10	@ Montreal	1:00 PM
Tue, Feb 13	vs Carolina	8:00 PM
Thu, Feb 15	@ Nashville	9:00 PM
Sat, Feb 17	vs Edmonton	12:30 PM
Mon, Feb 19	@ Boston	1:00 PM
Tue, Feb 20	@ NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Thu, Feb 22	@ Ottawa	7:00 PM
Sat, Feb 24	@ Carolina	7:00 PM
Mon, Feb 26	vs NY Islanders	8:00 PM
Tue, Feb 27	@ Colorado	9:00 PM
Thu, Feb 29	vs Winnipeg	8:00 PM
Sat, Mar 2	vs San Jose	8:00 PM
Tue, Mar 5	@ San Jose	10:30 PM
Fri, Mar 8	@ Anaheim	10:00 PM
Sat, Mar 9	@ Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Tue, Mar 12	vs Florida	8:00 PM
Thu, Mar 14	vs New Jersey	8:00 PM
Sat, Mar 16	vs Los Angeles	8:00 PM
Wed, Mar 20	vs Arizona	8:00 PM
Fri, Mar 22	vs Pittsburgh	8:00 PM
Sun, Mar 24	@ Arizona	8:00 PM
Tue, Mar 26	@ San Jose	10:30 PM
Thu, Mar 28	@ Vancouver	10:00 PM
Sat, Mar 30	@ Seattle	10:00 PM
Wed, Apr 3	vs Edmonton	9:00 PM
Sat, Apr 6	@ Chicago	4:30 PM
Sun, Apr 7	@ Colorado	10:00 PM
Tue, Apr 9	vs Buffalo	8:00 PM
Thu, Apr 11	vs Winnipeg	8:00 PM
Sat, Apr 13	vs Seattle	3:00 PM
Wed, Apr 17	vs St. Louis	9:30 PM

STANKOVEN: ALLEN DOUGLAS / KAMLOOPS BLAZERS; HINTZ: SERGEI BELSKI-USA TODAY SPORTS

ORGANIZATIONAL ROSTER

GOALIES	AGE	HT.	WT.	CATCHES	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	W-L-OT	GAA	SP
Maxim Mayorov	19	6-6	196	Left	Togliatti, Rus.	147th overall (2022)	Loko-76/Loko Jr. (Rus.)	32	11-15-3	2.81	.915
Matt Murray	25	6-1	200	Left	St. Albert, Alta.	Free Agent: signed 10/31/22	Texas (AHL)	34	18-10-5	2.37	.911
Jake Oettinger	24	6-5	220	Left	Lakeville, Minn.	26th overall (2017)	Dallas	62	37-11-11	2.37	.919
Remi Poirier	21	6-2	210	Left	Farnham, Que.	185th overall (2020)	Idaho (ECHL)	23	19-2-1	2.07	.928
Arno Tiefensee	21	6-4	192	Left	Weibwasser, Ger.	157th overall (2023)	Mannheim (Ger.)	23	13-10-0	2.43	.910
Scott Wedgewood	31	6-2	205	Left	Brampton, Ont.	Trade: Ari 3/20/22	Dallas	21	9-8-3	2.72	.915

DEFENSEMEN	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Jack Bar	20	6-2	193	Right	Newmarket, Ont.	138th overall (2021)	Harvard (ECAC)	32	1	4	5	31
Gavin Bayreuther	29	6-1	196	Left	Canaan, N.H.	Free Agent: signed 7/2/23	Columbus	51	2	12	14	23
Tristan Bertucci	18	6-2	172	Left	Woodbridge, Ont.	61st overall (2023)	Flint (OHL)	63	11	39	50	66
Lian Bichsel	19	6-5	216	Left	Olten, Sui.	18th overall (2022)	Leksand (Swe.)	42	1	5	6	47
George Fegaras	19	6-1	188	Right	Richmond Hill, Ont.	83rd overall (2022)	Muskegon (USHL)	61	4	23	27	32
Artem Grushnikov	20	6-1	205	Left	Voskresensk, Rus.	48th overall (2021)	Hamilton (OHL)	65	8	9	17	44
Jani Hakanpaa	31	6-6	225	Right	Kirkkonummi, Fin.	Free Agent: signed 7/29/21	Dallas	82	6	10	16	60
Joel Hanley	32	5-11	190	Left	Keswick, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/18	Dallas	26	0	2	2	15
Thomas Harley	22	6-3	205	Left	Syracuse, N.Y.	18th overall (2019)	Texas (AHL)	66	10	24	34	24
Miro Heiskanen	24	6-1	195	Left	Espoo, Fin.	3rd overall (2017)	Dallas	79	11	62	73	32
Christian Kyrou	20	5-10	170	Right	Toronto, Ont.	50th overall (2022)	Erie/Sarnia (OHL)	64	20	57	77	44
Esa Lindell	29	6-3	220	Left	Vantaa, Fin.	74th overall (2012)	Dallas	82	8	16	24	10
Nils Lundkvist	23	5-11	190	Right	Pitea, Swe.	Trade: NYR 9/19/22	Dallas	60	6	10	16	26
Aram Minnetian	18	5-11	192	Right	Woodcliff Lake, N.J.	125th overall (2023)	USA U18 (NTDP)	62	7	24	31	55
Alexander Petrovic	31	6-4	220	Right	Edmonton, Alta.	Free Agent: signed 7/28/21	Texas (AHL)	71	9	18	27	62
Derrick Pouliot	29	6-0	196	Left	Estevan, Sask.	Free Agent: signed 7/4/23	San Jose (AHL)	37	4	21	25	46
Jerad Rosburg	27	6-2	205	Left	Clarksville, Md.	Free Agent: signed 3/9/20	Texas (AHL)	12	0	3	3	13
Ryan Suter	38	6-1	205	Left	Madison, Wis.	Free Agent: signed 7/28/21	Dallas	82	3	22	25	26
Gavin White	20	5-11	161	Right	Brockville, Ont.	115th overall (2022)	Hamilton/Peterborough (OHL)	54	12	29	41	18

CENTERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Francesco Arcuri	20	6-1	200	Left	Toronto, Ont.	175th overall (2021)	Kingston/Kitchener (OHL)	71	48	43	91	28
Oskar Back	23	6-3	210	Left	Karlstad, Swe.	75th overall (2018)	Texas (AHL)	66	5	22	27	6
Mavrik Bourque	21	5-10	185	Right	Plessisville, Que.	30th overall (2020)	Texas (AHL)	70	20	27	47	18
Riley Damiani	23	5-10	180	Right	Mississauga, Ont.	137th overall (2018)	Texas (AHL)	59	13	18	31	28
Ty Dellandrea	23	6-1	195	Right	Port Perry, Ont.	13th overall (2018)	Dallas	82	9	19	28	54
Matt Duchene	32	5-11	195	Left	Haliburton, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Nashville	71	22	34	56	32
Radek Faksa	29	6-3	225	Left	Vitkov, Cze.	13th overall (2012)	Dallas	81	11	9	20	39
Brad Gardiner	18	6-1	178	Right	Barrie, Ont.	79th overall (2023)	Ottawa (OHL)	68	19	20	39	33
Roope Hintz	26	6-3	215	Left	Tampere, Fin.	49th overall (2015)	Dallas	73	37	38	75	30
Wyatt Johnston	20	6-1	185	Right	Toronto, Ont.	23rd overall (2021)	Dallas	82	24	17	41	20
Fredrik Karlstrom	25	6-3	200	Left	Stockholm, Swe.	90th overall (2016)	Texas (AHL)	47	10	16	26	16
Daniel Ljungman	21	6-1	166	Left	Uppsala, Swe.	154th overall (2020)	Kristianstad (Swe.2)	48	4	7	11	14
Angus MacDonell	18	5-9	180	Left	Toronto, Ont.	189th overall (2023)	Sarnia/Mississauga (OHL)	64	29	12	41	92
Joe Pavelski	39	5-11	200	Right	Plover, Wis.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/19	Dallas	82	28	49	77	8
Scott Reedy	24	6-2	205	Right	Prior Lake, Minn.	Trade: SJ 3/3/23	San Jose/Texas (AHL)	56	11	12	23	21
Tyler Seguin	31	6-1	205	Right	Brampton, Ont.	Trade: Bos 7/4/13	Dallas	76	21	29	50	24
Craig Smith	34	6-0	204	Right	Madison, Wis.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Boston/Washington	64	9	7	16	18
Logan Stankoven	20	5-7	170	Right	Kamloops, B.C.	47th overall (2021)	Kamloops (WHL)	48	34	63	97	17
Sam Steel	25	5-11	184	Left	Ardrossan, Alta.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Minnesota	65	10	18	28	18
Chase Wheatcroft	21	6-2	176	Left	Calgary, Alta.	Free Agent: signed 3/18/23	Prince George (WHL)	68	47	60	107	46

LEFT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Jamie Benn	34	6-2	205	Left	Victoria, B.C.	129th overall (2007)	Dallas	82	33	45	78	34
Sebastian Bradshaw	18	6-3	196	Left	Newtonville, Ont.	221st overall (2023)	Elite Hockey Academy (U-18)	59	31	31	62	68
Justin Ertel	20	6-2	195	Left	Kitchener, Ont.	79th overall (2021)	North Bay (OHL)	46	14	22	36	52
Mason Marchment	28	6-4	210	Left	Uxbridge, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Dallas	68	12	19	31	80
Ayrton Martino	21	5-11	160	Left	Toronto, Ont.	73rd overall (2021)	Clarkson (ECAC)	37	9	29	38	30
Adam Mascherin	25	5-10	205	Left	Maple, Ont.	100th overall (2018)	Skelleftea (Swe.)	16	0	1	1	4
Jason Robertson	24	6-3	200	Left	Arcadia, Calif.	39th overall (2017)	Dallas	82	46	63	109	20
Antonio Stranges	21	5-10	185	Left	Plymouth, Mich.	123rd overall (2020)	Texas (AHL)	19	4	8	12	0

RIGHT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Matej Blumel	23	6-0	200	Left	Tabor, Cze.	Free Agent: signed 6/6/22	Texas (AHL)	58	19	25	44	6
Nick Caamano	25	6-3	205	Left	Ancaster, Ont.	146th overall (2016)	Texas (AHL)	29	2	9	11	10
Evgenii Dadonov	34	5-11	189	Left	Chelyabinsk, Rus.	Trade: Mtl 2/26/23	Montreal/Dallas	73	7	26	33	18
Kyle McDonald	21	6-4	223	Right	Ottawa, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 3/10/23	North Bay (OHL)	43	34	18	52	42
Matthew Seminoff	19	5-11	190	Right	Leesburg, Va.	179th overall (2022)	Kamloops (WHL)	62	31	51	82	44
Albert Sjoberg	20	6-0	183	Right	Stockholm, Swe.	207th overall (2021)	Sodertalje (Swe.2)	46	9	4	13	22

DETROIT RED WINGS

MORITZ SEIDER

BY **BOB DUFF**

THAT OLD SAYING ABOUT "close only counts in horseshoes" certainly applies to the outcome of the 2022-23 season for the Red Wings. For one shining day in mid-February, Detroit sat in a playoff spot in the Eastern Conference. But, almost as quickly, the Wings faded from the post-season race, and GM Steve Yzerman opted to think of the future, dealing defenseman Filip Hronek and left winger Tyler Bertuzzi at the trade deadline.

The Wings lacked scoring depth, were improved – but still mediocre – defensively and on special teams, and they were severely undersized. Yzerman set out to address all those problems. He added nine players to the roster via trade or free agency, upgrading in several areas and beefing up the team's depth in all departments. But have the Wings improved enough to end a seven-season playoff drought? It'll be tough in the stacked Atlantic.

>OFFENSE

Detroit finished last season ranked 24th in goals, with 237, and that simply isn't good enough. The Red Wings and every team below them in this category missed the playoffs. Yzerman signed UFA winger Daniel Sprong, a 21-goal scorer for Seattle last year, and center J.T. Compher, who had 52 points with Colorado, as well as trading with Ottawa for two-time 40-goal man Alex DeBrincat. The returnees are led by captain Dylan Larkin, who set career highs in goals (32) and points (79). Veteran winger David Perron is the only other returning 20-goal sniper. Lucas Raymond endured a sophomore slump, slipping from 23 goals to 17. The club is counting on growth from Jonatan Berggren, Michael Rasmussen and Joe Veleno.

2022-23 NUMBERS

RECORD
35-37-10 (.488)

OVERTIME
4-6

SHOOTOUT
3-4

OVERALL
24th

OFFENSE
2.89 GPG (24th)

DEFENSE
3.35 GAA (22nd)

POWER PLAY
21.1% (17th)

PENALTY KILL
78.3% (18th)

CORSI FOR/60
49.55 (30th)

CORSI AGAINST/60
58.1 (20th)

ICE TIME LEAD (F)
D. Larkin (19:33)

ICE TIME LEAD (D)
M. Seider (23:09)

FAST FACTS

COACH
Derek Lalonde

GM
Steve Yzerman

ARENA
Little Caesars Arena

CAPACITY
19,515

AHL AFFILIATE
Grand Rapids Griffins

ECHL AFFILIATE
Toledo Walleye

PLAYOFF RECORD
0-0 (since 2019)

SEIDER: BOB FRID-USA TODAY SPORTS

DETROIT RED WINGS

DYLAN LARKIN

>DEFENSE

Reshaping its back end last season, Detroit added veterans Olli Maatta and Ben Chiarot. Maatta earned a two-year contract extension through his steady play, while Chiarot provided a much-needed physical presence. Moritz Seider's offensive numbers declined from his Calder Trophy-winning 2021-22 campaign, but his overall game grew in leaps and bounds. While leading the club in ice time, Seider was also one of three NHL defenders to post 200-plus hits and 190-plus blocked shots. The pairing he formed with Jake Walman, who enjoyed a breakout season, became Detroit's go-to shutdown tandem. Two UFA additions, defense-minded Justin Holl and offensive dynamo Shayne Gostisbehere, figure to form the second pairing. That leaves Maatta and Chiarot as the third duo, while Gustav Lindstrom was re-signed to serve as the seventh defenseman.

>GOALTENDING

Ville Husso set career highs for games (56), wins (26) and shutouts (four) in his first season with Detroit. However, he slumped down the stretch, going 1-6-1 with a 4.32 goals-against average and .839 save percentage in his final eight appearances. Looking to give him more help, the Wings signed UFA journeyman James Reimer. The club also added another free agent in Alex Lyon, who figures to be the No. 1 for AHL Grand Rapids.

>SPECIAL TEAMS

The power play improved from 26th overall (16.3 percent) in 2021-22 to 17th (21.1 percent) last season. Larkin counted 31 PP points, including 16 goals. Perron (22 points) and Seider (14 assists) were other dynamic power-play performers. And the power play should improve further with the additions of DeBrincat, who has 25 PP goals over the past two seasons, and Gostisbehere. After icing the NHL's worst penalty kill (73.8 percent) in 2021-22, the Wings jumped to 18th overall (78.3 percent). Rasmussen and Andrew Copp formed a dynamic PK pairing before Rasmussen's season was cut short by injury.

>INTANGIBLES

Back-to-back games at Ottawa in February saw the Senators bully the Wings all over the ice, emphasizing how much harder to play against Detroit needed to be. Klim Kostin, a 6-foot-3, 215-pound winger acquired from Edmonton, led the Oilers with 157 hits. Holl (6-foot-3, 197 pounds) was second on Toronto in both hits (151) and blocked shots (139).

CUP ODDS

65/1

>ROOKIES

Yzerman believes rookies must earn roster spots. Thus, first-round picks such as defenseman Simon Edvinsson (2021) and center Marco Kasper (2022) face uphill battles to make the squad. Edvinsson displayed flashes in a nine-game trial late last season. Kasper got into one NHL game and, impressively, finished the contest despite fracturing his kneecap.

>X-FACTOR

A year ago, so much was new to the Red Wings. New coach Derek Lalonde sought to instill a completely new system, emphasizing strict adherence to defensive responsibility. With a year of playing this style under their belts, should more be expected from the Wings in 2023-24? Is this the year they finally challenge for a playoff spot?

>THE BRASS

Yzerman remains patient five years into the rebuild. Several of his top draft picks are either in the NHL or on the cusp of big-league graduation. Lalonde and Yzerman are clearly on the same page when it comes to how they want the club to evolve.

DEPTH CHART | 2023-24

LEFT WING	CENTER	RIGHT WING
1. Alex DeBrincat	1. Dylan Larkin	1. Lucas Raymond
2. David Perron	2. J.T. Compher	2. Robby Fabbri
3. Michael Rasmussen	3. Andrew Copp	3. Daniel Sprong
4. Klim Kostin	4. Joe Veleno	4. Christian Fischer
5. Jonatan Berggren	5. Marco Kasper	5. Matt Luff

DEFENSE		GOALIE
1. Moritz Seider	6. Ben Chiarot	1. Ville Husso
2. Jake Walman	7. Gustav Lindstrom	2. James Reimer
3. Shayne Gostisbehere	8. Simon Edvinsson	3. Alex Lyon
4. Justin Holl	9. Brogan Rafferty	INJURED
5. Olli Maatta	10. Jared McIsaac	INDICATES NEW ARRIVAL

KEY DEPARTURES & UNSIGNED UFAs Dominik Kubalik, LW; Alex Nedeljkovic, G; Pius Suter, C; Adam Erne, LW; Jordan Oesterle, D; Robert Hagg, D; Alex Chiasson, RW; Filip Zadina, RW; Magnus Hellberg, G

LARKIN: DAVID KIROUAC-USA TODAY SPORTS

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FUTURE WATCH

THE RED WINGS HAVE have hoovered up draft prospects during Steve Yzerman's reign as GM, but now they want to see results – which will be tough in the fiercely competitive Atlantic. Lucas Raymond and Moritz Seider were hits, with Simon Edvinsson and Marco Kasper up next. Nate Danielson (is he a top center or a No. 2?) headlined the 2023 class, which also included offensive D-man Axel Sandin Pellikka and an intriguing goalie in Michigan State commit Trey Augustine.

TOP 10 PROSPECTS

1. Simon Edvinsson, D
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Grand Rapids (AHL)
Two goals in brief NHL stint after great AHL rookie campaign. He has top-pairing potential.
Acquired 6th overall, 2021 **NHL** '23-24

2. Marco Kasper, C
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Rogle (Swe.)
Injury in NHL debut was a setback. He's hard-nosed and talented. A top-six center in waiting.
Acquired 8th overall, 2022 **NHL** '24-25

3. Nate Danielson, C
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Brandon (WHL)
He's a set-up man with decent skating who is versatile enough to play center or either wing.
Acquired 9th overall, 2023 **NHL** '25-26

4. Sebastian Cossa, G
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Toledo (ECHL)
Detroit is bringing him along slowly – ECHL first, AHL next and NHL later. Plays with athleticism.
Acquired 15th overall, 2021 **NHL** '25-26

5. Axel Sandin Pellikka, D
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Skelleftea Jr. (Swe.)
Get past the 5-foot-11 frame and you have a smooth-skating, puck-moving, pro-ready 'D.'
Acquired 17th overall, 2023 **NHL** '26-27

6. Carter Mazur, LW
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** Denver (NCHC)
He gets under the opposition's skin with offense or tenacity. Lots of skill but streaky in NCAA.
Acquired 70th overall, 2021 **NHL** '25-26

7. Andrew Gibson, D
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Sault Ste. Marie (OHL)
Has the size and range of a shutdown 'D.' He won't be driving play from the back end.
Acquired 42nd overall, 2023 **NHL** '27-28

8. Trey Augustine, G
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** USA U18 (NTDP)
He had one of the best NTDP seasons ever. Reads the play well and can dart across the crease.
Acquired 41st overall, 2023 **NHL** '28-29

9. Dmitri Buchelnikov, LW
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** SKA Neva (Rus.2)
Plays with pace and fire. Performed well in Russia's second tier, but the KHL is a different beast.
Acquired 52nd overall, 2022 **NHL** '26-27

10. William Wallinder, D
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** Rogle (Swe.)
Strong on 'D' and packs attacking punch. Wings want to see how his game translates to AHL.
Acquired 32nd overall, 2020 **NHL** '24-25

SCHEDULE | 2023-24

Thu, Oct 12	@ New Jersey	7:00 PM
Sat, Oct 14	vs Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Mon, Oct 16	@ Columbus	7:00 PM
Wed, Oct 18	vs Pittsburgh	7:30 PM
Sat, Oct 21	@ Ottawa	1:00 PM
Sun, Oct 22	vs Calgary	5:00 PM
Tue, Oct 24	vs Seattle	8:15 PM
Thu, Oct 26	vs Winnipeg	7:00 PM
Sat, Oct 28	@ Boston	7:00 PM
Mon, Oct 30	@ NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Thu, Nov 2	vs Florida	7:00 PM
Sat, Nov 4	vs Boston	7:00 PM
Tue, Nov 7	@ NY Rangers	7:30 PM
Thu, Nov 9	vs Montreal	7:00 PM
Sat, Nov 11	vs Columbus	1:00 PM
Thu, Nov 16	@ Ottawa*	1:00 PM
Fri, Nov 17	vs Toronto*	2:00 PM
Wed, Nov 22	vs New Jersey	7:00 PM
Fri, Nov 24	@ Boston	1:00 PM
Sun, Nov 26	vs Minnesota	1:00 PM
Wed, Nov 29	@ NY Rangers	7:30 PM
Thu, Nov 30	vs Chicago	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 2	@ Montreal	7:00 PM
Tue, Dec 5	@ Buffalo	7:00 PM
Thu, Dec 7	vs San Jose	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 9	vs Ottawa	7:00 PM
Mon, Dec 11	@ Dallas	8:00 PM
Tue, Dec 12	@ St. Louis	8:00 PM
Thu, Dec 14	vs Carolina	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 16	@ Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Mon, Dec 18	vs Anaheim	7:00 PM
Wed, Dec 20	@ Winnipeg	7:30 PM
Fri, Dec 22	vs Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 23	@ New Jersey	7:00 PM
Wed, Dec 27	@ Minnesota	8:00 PM
Fri, Dec 29	vs Nashville	7:00 PM
Sun, Dec 31	vs Boston	5:00 PM
Tue, Jan 2	@ San Jose	10:30 PM
Thu, Jan 4	@ Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Sun, Jan 7	@ Anaheim	8:00 PM
Thu, Jan 11	vs Edmonton	7:00 PM
Sat, Jan 13	vs Los Angeles	7:00 PM
Sun, Jan 14	@ Toronto	7:00 PM
Wed, Jan 17	@ Florida	7:00 PM
Fri, Jan 19	@ Carolina	7:00 PM
Sun, Jan 21	vs Tampa Bay	5:00 PM
Tue, Jan 23	vs Dallas	7:00 PM
Thu, Jan 25	vs Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Sat, Jan 27	vs Vegas	7:00 PM
Wed, Jan 31	vs Ottawa	7:00 PM
Sat, Feb 10	vs Vancouver	1:00 PM
Tue, Feb 13	@ Edmonton	9:00 PM
Thu, Feb 15	@ Vancouver	10:00 PM
Sat, Feb 17	@ Calgary	4:00 PM
Mon, Feb 19	@ Seattle	3:30 PM
Thu, Feb 22	vs Colorado	7:00 PM
Sat, Feb 24	vs St. Louis	7:00 PM
Sun, Feb 25	@ Chicago	6:00 PM
Tue, Feb 27	vs Washington	7:00 PM
Thu, Feb 29	vs NY Islanders	7:00 PM
Sat, Mar 2	vs Florida	7:00 PM
Wed, Mar 6	@ Colorado	9:30 PM
Fri, Mar 8	@ Arizona	9:00 PM
Sat, Mar 9	@ Vegas	10:00 PM
Tue, Mar 12	@ Buffalo	7:00 PM
Thu, Mar 14	vs Arizona	7:00 PM
Sat, Mar 16	vs Buffalo	12:30 PM
Sun, Mar 17	@ Pittsburgh	6:00 PM
Tue, Mar 19	vs Columbus	7:00 PM
Thu, Mar 21	vs NY Islanders	7:00 PM
Sat, Mar 23	@ Nashville	5:00 PM
Tue, Mar 26	@ Washington	7:00 PM
Thu, Mar 28	@ Carolina	7:00 PM
Sat, Mar 30	@ Florida	12:30 PM
Mon, Apr 1	@ Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Fri, Apr 5	vs NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Sun, Apr 7	vs Buffalo	1:00 PM
Tue, Apr 9	vs Washington	7:00 PM
Thu, Apr 11	@ Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Sat, Apr 13	@ Toronto	7:00 PM
Mon, Apr 15	vs Montreal	7:00 PM
Tue, Apr 16	@ Montreal	7:00 PM

**Global Series in Sweden*

EDVINSSON: MARK NEWMAN/GRAND RAPIDS GRIFFINS; PERRON: DAVID KIROUAC-USA TODAY SPORTS

ORGANIZATIONAL ROSTER

GOALIES	AGE	HT.	WT.	CATCHES	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	W-L-OT	GAA	SP
Trey Augustine	18	6-1	183	Left	St. Louis, Mo.	41st overall (2023)	USA U18 (NTDP)	33	29-1-2	2.13	.926
Jan Bednar	21	6-4	200	Left	Rokycany, Cze.	107th overall (2020)	Acadie-Bathurst (QMJHL)	10	4-5-1	4.46	.874
Sebastian Cossa	20	6-6	229	Left	Hamilton, Ont.	15th overall (2021)	Toledo (ECHL)	46	26-16-1	2.56	.913
Rudy Guimond	18	6-3	166	Left	Pointe-Claire, Que.	169th overall (2023)	Taft School (USHS)	28	N/A	N/A	.940
Carter Gylander	22	6-4	170	Left	Edmonton, Alta.	191st overall (2019)	Colgate (ECAC)	39	19-15-5	2.46	.914
Ville Husso	28	6-3	200	Left	Helsinki, Fin.	Trade: StL 7/8/22	Detroit	56	26-22-7	3.11	.896
John Lethemon	27	6-3	190	Left	Northville, Mich.	Free Agent: signed 3/3/23	Toledo (ECHL)	26	18-1-3	1.99	.930
Alex Lyon	30	6-1	201	Left	Baudette, Minn.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Charlotte (AHL)	23	13-9-1	2.43	.910
James Reimer	35	6-3	205	Left	Morweena, Man.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	San Jose	43	12-21-8	3.48	.890
Joren van Pottelberghe	26	6-3	187	Left	Zug, Sui.	110th overall (2015)	Biel-Bienne (Sui.)	6	3-2-0	2.88	.902

DEFENSEMEN	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Kyle Aucoin	21	5-11	164	Left	Ottawa, Ont.	156th overall (2020)	Harvard (ECAC)	24	0	2	2	4
Shai Buium	20	6-3	209	Left	San Diego, Calif.	36th overall (2021)	Denver (NCHC)	38	4	17	21	18
Ben Chiarot	32	6-3	232	Left	Hamilton, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Detroit	76	5	14	19	51
Brady Cleveland	18	6-5	211	Left	Wausau, Wis.	47th overall (2023)	USA U18 (NTDP)	55	0	6	6	106
Simon Edvinsson	20	6-6	209	Left	Kungsbacka, Swe.	6th overall (2021)	Grand Rapids (AHL)	52	5	22	27	52
Andrew Gibson	18	6-3	196	Right	Windsor, Ont.	42nd overall (2023)	Sault Ste. Marie (OHL)	45	7	14	21	30
Shayne Gostisbehere	30	5-11	180	Left	Pembroke Pines, Fla.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Arizona/Carolina	75	13	28	41	32
Justin Holl	31	6-3	197	Right	Tonka Bay, Minn.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Toronto	80	2	16	18	39
Anton Johansson	19	6-4	172	Right	Stockholm, Swe.	105th overall (2022)	Leksand Jr. (Swe.)	32	6	7	13	94
Albert Johansson	22	6-0	168	Left	Karlstad, Swe.	60th overall (2019)	Grand Rapids (AHL)	53	5	10	15	38
Larry Keenan	18	6-3	185	Left	Barrie, Ont.	117th overall (2023)	Culver Academy (USHS)	49	11	26	37	34
Gustav Lindstrom	24	6-2	186	Right	Ostervala, Swe.	38th overall (2017)	Detroit	36	1	7	8	20
Olli Maatta	29	6-2	207	Left	Jyvaskyla, Fin.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Detroit	78	6	17	23	14
Tnias Mathurin	19	6-3	200	Left	Ajax, Ont.	137th overall (2022)	North Bay (OHL)	1	0	0	0	0
Jared McIsaac	23	6-1	192	Left	Truro, N.S.	36th overall (2018)	Grand Rapids (AHL)	61	3	19	22	30
Cooper Moore	22	6-1	185	Left	Greenwich, Conn.	128th overall (2019)	North Dakota (NCHC)	31	3	10	13	34
Wyatt Newpower	25	6-3	207	Right	Hugo, Minn.	Free Agent: signed 5/31/21	Grand Rapids (AHL)	59	2	5	7	68
Jack Phelan	19	6-2	171	Right	Hinsdale, Ill.	137th overall (2023)	Sioux Falls (USHL)	59	1	4	5	26
Brogan Rafferty	28	6-0	202	Right	West Dundee, Ill.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Coachella Valley (AHL)	72	9	42	51	42
Axel Sandin Pellikka	18	5-11	176	Right	Gallivare, Swe.	17th overall (2023)	Skelleftea Jr. (Swe.)	31	16	20	36	64
Moritz Seider	22	6-4	204	Right	Zell, Ger.	6th overall (2019)	Detroit	82	5	37	42	40
Antti Tuomisto	22	6-4	194	Right	Pori, Fin.	35th overall (2019)	TPS (Fin.)	60	5	15	20	20
Eemil Viro	21	6-0	165	Left	Vantaa, Fin.	70th overall (2020)	Grand Rapids (AHL)	48	1	7	8	14
William Wallinder	21	6-4	191	Left	Solleftea, Swe.	32nd overall (2020)	Rogle (Swe.)	50	7	19	26	10
Jake Walman	27	6-2	215	Left	Toronto, Ont.	Trade: StL 3/21/22	Detroit	63	9	9	18	45

CENTERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Brennan Ali	19	6-0	193	Left	Glenco, Ill.	212th overall (2022)	Lincoln Stars (USHL)	57	13	30	43	32
Pontus Andreasson	25	5-10	182	Left	Munkedal, Swe.	Free Agent: signed 5/16/22	Grand Rapids (AHL)	63	12	13	25	30
Andrew Copp	29	6-1	199	Left	Ann Arbor, Mich.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Detroit	82	9	33	42	25
Austin Czarnik	30	5-9	170	Right	Detroit, Mich.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Grand Rapids (AHL)	43	14	23	37	8
Nate Danielson	19	6-2	185	Right	Edmonton, Alta.	9th overall (2023)	Brandon (WHL)	68	33	45	78	38
Liam Dower Nilsson	20	6-0	172	Left	Gothenburg, Swe.	134th overall (2021)	Vasteras (Swe.2)	32	3	12	15	10
Robby Fabbri	27	5-11	185	Left	Mississauga, Ont.	Trade: StL 11/7/19	Detroit	28	7	9	16	22
Emmitt Finnie	18	6-0	170	Left	Lethbridge, Alta.	201st overall (2023)	Kamloops (WHL)	64	9	26	35	12
Alexander Kadeykin	29	6-3	213	Left	Elektrostal, Rus.	201st overall (2014)	Ufa (KHL)	68	13	26	39	28
Marco Kasper	19	6-1	183	Left	Innsbruck, Aut.	8th overall (2022)	Rogle (Swe.)	52	8	15	23	72
Klim Kostin	24	6-3	215	Left	Penza, Rus.	Trade: Edm 6/29/23	Edmonton	57	11	10	21	66
Dylan Larkin	27	6-1	198	Left	Waterford, Mich.	15th overall (2014)	Detroit	80	32	47	79	45
Amadeus Lombardi	20	5-10	165	Left	Newmarket, Ont.	113th overall (2022)	Flint (OHL)	67	45	57	102	18
Robert Mastrosimone	22	5-10	170	Left	Bay Shore, N.Y.	54th overall (2019)	Arizona State (NCAA)	38	11	31	42	31
Owen Mehlenbacher	19	6-2	189	Left	Fort Erie, Ont.	201st overall (2022)	Muskegon/Fargo (USHL)	57	19	31	50	70
Theodor Niederbach	21	5-11	172	Right	Ornskoldsvik, Swe.	51st overall (2020)	Modo (Swe.2)	31	7	11	18	31
Ethan Phillips	22	5-9	155	Right	Dartmouth, N.S.	97th overall (2019)	Boston University (HE)	29	4	7	11	14
Michael Rasmussen	24	6-6	211	Left	Surrey, B.C.	9th overall (2017)	Detroit	56	10	19	29	43
Redmond Savage	20	5-11	180	Left	Scottsdale, Ariz.	114th overall (2021)	Miami-Ohio (NCHC)	32	7	7	14	24
Nolan Stevens	27	6-3	190	Left	Brantford, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/3/23	Utica (AHL)	48	15	18	33	17
Joe Veleno	23	6-1	203	Left	Montreal, Que.	30th overall (2018)	Detroit	81	9	11	20	30

LEFT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Kevin Bicker	18	6-0	176	Left	Weiden in der Oberpfalz, Ger.	147th overall (2023)	Mannheim Jr. (Ger.)	20	10	11	21	16
Chase Bradley	21	5-11	180	Left	St. Louis, Mo.	203rd overall (2020)	Connecticut (HE)	35	10	10	20	61
Dmitri Buchelnikov	20	5-10	163	Right	Nizhny Tagil, Rus.	52nd overall (2022)	SKA-Neva St. Pete. (Rus.2)	35	15	13	28	12
J.T. Compher	28	6-0	190	Right	Northbrook, Ill.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Colorado	82	17	35	52	33
Alexandre Doucet	21	6-0	192	Left	Sherbrooke, Que.	Free Agent: signed 3/1/23	Val-d'Or/Halifax (QMJHL)	70	58	57	115	44
Noah Dower Nilsson	18	6-0	174	Left	Stromstad, Swe.	73rd overall (2023)	Frolunda Jr. (Swe.)	37	26	28	54	10
Tim Gettinger	25	6-6	222	Left	Cleveland, Ohio	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Hartford (AHL)	52	13	22	35	26
Cross Hanas	21	6-1	171	Left	Dallas, Texas	55th overall (2020)	Grand Rapids (AHL)	30	9	8	17	22
Taro Hirose	27	5-10	162	Left	Calgary, Alta.	Free Agent: signed 3/12/19	Grand Rapids (AHL)	71	16	41	57	12
Dylan James	19	6-0	181	Left	Calgary, Alta.	40th overall (2022)	North Dakota (NCHC)	36	8	8	16	6
Maximilian Kilpinen	19	6-0	165	Left	Stockholm, Swe.	129th overall (2022)	Orebro Jr. (Swe.)	48	13	16	29	10
Carter Mazur	21	6-0	170	Right	Jackson, Mich.	70th overall (2021)	Denver (NCHC)	40	22	15	37	32
David Perron	35	6-1	196	Right	Sherbrooke, Que.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Detroit	82	24	32	56	52
Lucas Raymond	21	5-11	176	Right	Gothenburg, Swe.	4th overall (2020)	Detroit	74	17	28	45	24
Elmer Soderblom	22	6-8	246	Left	Gothenburg, Swe.	159th overall (2019)	Detroit	21	5	3	8	8
Kirill Tyutyayev	23	5-10	176	Left	Yekaterinburg, Rus.	190th overall (2019)	Toledo (ECHL)	31	8	39	47	8

RIGHT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Jonatan Berggren	23	5-11	197	Left	Uppsala, Swe.	33rd overall (2018)	Detroit	67	15	13	28	16
Alex DeBrincat	25	5-8	178	Right	Farmington Hills, Mich.	Trade: Ott 7/9/23	Ottawa	82	27	39	66	45
Kienan Draper	21	6-0	187	Right	Royal Oak, Mich.	187th overall (2020)	Michigan (Big Ten)	23	1	0	1	24
Christian Fischer	26	6-2	212	Right	Chicago, Ill.	Free Agent: signed 7/2/23	Arizona	80	13	14	27	20
Matt Luff	26	6-2	196	Right	Oakville, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Grand Rapids (AHL)	28	8	17	25	6
Ryan O'Reilly	23	6-2	212	Right	Southlake, Texas	98th overall (2018)	Arizona State (NCAA)	36	8	8	16	16
Daniel Sprong	26	6-0	202	Right	Amsterdam, Ned.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Seattle	66	21	25	46	14
Sam Stange	22	6-1	200	Right	Eau Claire, Wis.	97th overall (2020)	Wisconsin (Big Ten)	34	3	8	11	2

EDMONTON OILERS

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BY **CAROL SCHRAM**

AFTER BEING ELIMINATED by the eventual Stanley Cup champs two years in a row, Edmonton is hungry for a title of its own.

Last season, the Oilers' power play was historically dangerous. Connor McDavid captured his first Rocket Richard Trophy and re-asserted himself as hockey's best player, with Leon Draisaitl riding shotgun. Stuart Skinner stood tall in net, and Mattias Ekholm was a shutdown specialist on defense.

GM Ken Holland hopes he's a move or two away from the perfect roster mix. With the team tight to the salary cap, Holland leveraged McDavid's junior-hockey relationship with handy winger Connor Brown into a bonus-laden bargain deal on July 1. Beyond that and a couple of other depth signings, Holland stood pat.

A lot went right for the Oilers last season, but they still fell short. They're aiming to be as good or better this year.

>OFFENSE

No team struck more fear into the hearts of stoppers than the Oilers, the NHL's top-scoring club. McDavid's 153 points were the most in a single season by any player since 1995-96, and Draisaitl (128 points) equalled the millennium's previous-best total. Ryan Nugent-Hopkins also logged a career-high 104 points. This year's lineup could be even more dangerous. Brown is a two-time 20-goal scorer, and a full season of a healthy Evander Kane will also help, including on a power play that was already virtually unstoppable. Late last year, Evan Bouchard showed he's more than capable of quarterbacking the top unit, and there's hope youngsters such as Ryan McLeod and Dylan Holloway are ready to produce more offense.

2022-23 NUMBERS

RECORD
50-23-9 (.665)

OVERTIME
5-5

SHOOTOUT
0-4

OVERALL
6th

OFFENSE
3.96 GPG (1st)

DEFENSE
3.12 GAA (17th)

POWER PLAY
32.4% (1st)

PENALTY KILL
77.0% (20th)

CORSI FOR/60
57.91 (12th)

CORSI AGAINST/60
52.87 (4th)

ICE TIME LEAD (F)
C. McDavid (22:23)

ICE TIME LEAD (D)
D. Nurse (23:30)

FAST FACTS

COACH
Jay Woodcroft

GM
Ken Holland

ARENA
Rogers Place

CAPACITY
18,347

AHL AFFILIATE
Bakersfield Condors

ECHL AFFILIATE
Fort Wayne Komets

PLAYOFF RECORD
15-21 (since 2019)

MCDAVID: PERRY NELSON-USA TODAY SPORTS

EDMONTON OILERS

>DEFENSE

In the McDavid era, the Oilers have often leaned into the idea that the best defense is a good offense. But as they continue to fine-tune their roster and chase a championship, they're now taking a more balanced approach. Edmonton's blueline group will look a lot like last year – and that's just fine. Ekholm brought a much-needed dimension as a physical shutdown defender, and the Oilers averaged just 2.67 goals against in the 21 games after he was acquired at the trade deadline. Up front, Brown brings a strong two-way game and solid penalty-killing chops. He'll be a helping hand for the team's other defensive consciences, Derek Ryan and Mattias Janmark. A foot injury limited Janmark to just five playoff games last spring, and he was missed.

>GOALTENDING

Originally expected to play about 30 games as Jack Campbell's backup, Skinner finished his first full NHL campaign with a whopping 62 appearances through the regular season and playoffs. He was coach Jay Woodcroft's go-to goalie throughout the post-season, and he finished second in Calder Trophy voting. Skinner enters the new season as the Oilers' No. 1, but with four years and $20 million remaining on his contract, Campbell will make things interesting if he starts off strong.

>SPECIAL TEAMS

The Oilers aren't the toughest team in the West. But a power play that clicked at 32.4 percent made opponents think twice before committing fouls that might send them to the sin bin. A pleasant surprise: the last part of the year was the strongest. With Bouchard in charge on the point, Edmonton clicked at 33.9 percent after Tyson Barrie was sent away in the Ekholm deal. The penalty kill is an area for improvement. Holland is hopeful Brown's responsible approach will move Edmonton up from a 20th-place finish (77.0 percent).

>INTANGIBLES

When he sets his mind to something, McDavid has a tendency to reach his goal. Last season, for instance, he successfully set his sights on becoming the league's best goalscorer. But as he collected all his hardware at the NHL Awards in June, it was obvious the Oilers captain is burning to win a Stanley Cup. That otherworldly determination could play a key role in finally getting Edmonton back to the promised land.

CUP ODDS

12/1

>ROOKIES

No longer waiver-exempt and coming off a solid season with AHL Bakersfield where he scored 25 goals and 45 points in 61 games, look for 6-foot-4 Raphael Lavoie, a 2019 second-round pick, to crack the Oilers' roster for the first time, most likely on the wing. Second-year pro Xavier Bourgault is likely the next forward in line for a call-up from Bakersfield.

>X-FACTOR

After players have career years, regression often looms on the horizon. So far, McDavid and Draisaitl have been the unicorns who manage to continuously eclipse their already lofty achievements. A dip from Nugent-Hopkins, a sophomore slump for Skinner or injury troubles are the only things that could lead to a backslide this season in Oil Country.

>THE BRASS

At 67, GM Ken Holland is in the final year of his contract. If this is his last hurrah, he'd love to go out with a fifth Stanley Cup ring. The Oilers finished sixth overall in Woodcroft's first full season behind the bench. He's under contract for two more years.

DEPTH CHART | 2023-24

LEFT WING	CENTER	RIGHT WING
1. Evander Kane	1. Connor McDavid	1. Zach Hyman
2. Ryan Nugent-Hopkins	2. Leon Draisaitl	2. Connor Brown
3. Dylan Holloway	3. Ryan McLeod	3. Warren Foegele
4. Raphael Lavoie	4. Derek Ryan	4. Mattias Janmark
5. Drake Caggiula	5. Lane Pederson	5. Xavier Bourgault

DEFENSE		GOALIE
1. Darnell Nurse	6. Philip Broberg	1. Stuart Skinner
2. Mattias Ekholm	7. Vincent Desharnais	2. Jack Campbell
3. Evan Bouchard	8. Markus Niemelainen	3. Olivier Rodrigue
4. Cody Ceci	9. Cam Dineen	INJURED
5. Brett Kulak	10. Philip Kemp	INDICATES NEW ARRIVAL

KEY DEPARTURES & UNSIGNED UFAs Kailer Yamamoto, RW; Klim Kostin, C; Devin Shore, C; Nick Bjugstad, C; Ryan Murray, D; Tyler Benson, LW

DRAISAITL: PERRY NELSON-USA TODAY SPORTS

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FUTURE WATCH

IT'S ALL ABOUT THE present in Edmonton, where the Oilers are searching for their first Cup banner in 34 years. The Oilers only had three picks in the 2023 draft after just four in 2022 – the first of which, Reid Schaefer, has already been traded to Nashville in the Mattias Ekholm swap. Other than Dylan Holloway and Philip Broberg, the Oilers are light on up-and-comers as they make another run. Expect more of the same in 2024, as the team has already traded away several selections.

TOP 10 PROSPECTS

1. Xavier Bourgault, C
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Bakersfield (AHL)
Good numbers as AHL rookie. Next step is adding strength and learning how to dictate offense.
Acquired 22nd overall, 2021 **NHL** '24-25

2. Carter Savoie, LW
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** Bakersfield (AHL)
Struggled with move to pro game before injury disrupted season. Good IQ and a PP weapon.
Acquired 100th overall, 2020 **NHL** '25-26

3. Beau Akey, D
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Barrie (OHL)
Great fundamentals and no glaring weakness, but there's no single standout attribute, either.
Acquired 56th overall, 2023 **NHL** '27-28

4. Matvey Petrov, LW
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** North Bay (OHL)
Dipped from 40 to 27 goals, but playmaking led to career-best 93 points. Two-way game improving.
Acquired 180th overall, 2021 **NHL** '25-26

5. Maximus Wanner, D
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Moose Jaw (WHL)
Excels in his own zone and works well with a more offensive partner. Not afraid to play it physical.
Acquired 212th overall, 2021 **NHL** '25-26

6. Raphael Lavoie, C
Age 23 **2022-23 Team** Bakersfield (AHL)
Incremental growth in the AHL led to a larger role. He's big, strong and can unleash the puck.
Acquired 38th overall, 2019 **NHL** '23-24

7. Tyler Tullio, RW
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** Bakersfield (AHL)
Learning what works – and what doesn't – in the AHL. When one lane closes, he finds another.
Acquired 126th overall, 2020 **NHL** '25-26

8. Luca Munzenberger, D
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Vermont (HE)
Positionally sound defender knows his game and plays to his strengths. Could be a good PK hand.
Acquired 90th overall, 2021 **NHL** '26-27

9. Nikita Yevseyev, D
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Kazan (KHL)
Stepped in, impressed and earned regular minutes in KHL at 18. His contract runs through 2025.
Acquired 190th overall, 2022 **NHL** '26-27

10. Nathaniel Day, G
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Flint (OHL)
Doesn't get overactive in his crease and knows how to stay patient to put pressure on shooters.
Acquired 184th overall, 2023 **NHL** '28-29

SCHEDULE | 2023-24

Wed, Oct 11	@ Vancouver	10:00 PM
Sat, Oct 14	vs Vancouver	10:00 PM
Tue, Oct 17	@ Nashville	8:00 PM
Thu, Oct 19	@ Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Sat, Oct 21	vs Winnipeg	10:00 PM
Tue, Oct 24	@ Minnesota	9:00 PM
Thu, Oct 26	vs NY Rangers	9:00 PM
Sun, Oct 29	vs Calgary*	7:00 PM
Thu, Nov 2	vs Dallas	9:00 PM
Sat, Nov 4	vs Nashville	3:00 PM
Mon, Nov 6	@ Vancouver	10:00 PM
Thu, Nov 9	@ San Jose	10:30 PM
Sat, Nov 11	@ Seattle	10:00 PM
Mon, Nov 13	vs NY Islanders	8:30 PM
Wed, Nov 15	vs Seattle	8:30 PM
Sat, Nov 18	@ Tampa Bay	4:00 PM
Mon, Nov 20	@ Florida	7:00 PM
Wed, Nov 22	@ Carolina	7:00 PM
Fri, Nov 24	@ Washington	3:00 PM
Sun, Nov 26	vs Anaheim	9:00 PM
Tue, Nov 28	vs Vegas	9:00 PM
Thu, Nov 30	@ Winnipeg	8:00 PM
Wed, Dec 6	vs Carolina	9:30 PM
Fri, Dec 8	vs Minnesota	9:00 PM
Sun, Dec 10	vs New Jersey	4:00 PM
Tue, Dec 12	vs Chicago	10:00 PM
Thu, Dec 14	vs Tampa Bay	9:00 PM
Sat, Dec 16	vs Florida	10:00 PM
Tue, Dec 19	@ NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Thu, Dec 21	@ New Jersey	7:00 PM
Fri, Dec 22	@ NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Thu, Dec 28	@ San Jose	10:30 PM
Sat, Dec 30	@ Los Angeles	10:00 PM
Sun, Dec 31	@ Anaheim	8:00 PM
Tue, Jan 2	vs Philadelphia	9:00 PM
Sat, Jan 6	vs Ottawa	10:00 PM
Tue, Jan 9	@ Chicago	8:30 PM
Thu, Jan 11	@ Detroit	7:00 PM
Sat, Jan 13	@ Montreal	7:00 PM
Tue, Jan 16	vs Toronto	9:00 PM
Thu, Jan 18	vs Seattle	9:00 PM
Sat, Jan 20	@ Calgary	10:00 PM
Tue, Jan 23	vs Columbus	9:00 PM
Thu, Jan 25	vs Chicago	9:00 PM
Sat, Jan 27	vs Nashville	4:00 PM
Tue, Feb 6	@ Vegas	10:00 PM
Fri, Feb 9	@ Anaheim	10:00 PM
Sat, Feb 10	@ Los Angeles	10:00 PM
Tue, Feb 13	vs Detroit	9:00 PM
Thu, Feb 15	@ St. Louis	8:00 PM
Sat, Feb 17	@ Dallas	12:30 PM
Mon, Feb 19	@ Arizona	4:00 PM
Wed, Feb 21	vs Boston	10:00 PM
Fri, Feb 23	vs Minnesota	9:00 PM
Sat, Feb 24	vs Calgary	10:00 PM
Mon, Feb 26	vs Los Angeles	9:30 PM
Wed, Feb 28	vs St. Louis	8:30 PM
Sat, Mar 2	@ Seattle	4:00 PM
Sun, Mar 3	vs Pittsburgh	9:00 PM
Tue, Mar 5	@ Boston	7:00 PM
Thu, Mar 7	@ Columbus	7:00 PM
Sat, Mar 9	@ Buffalo	12:30 PM
Sun, Mar 10	@ Pittsburgh	1:00 PM
Wed, Mar 13	vs Washington	10:00 PM
Sat, Mar 16	vs Colorado	10:00 PM
Tue, Mar 19	vs Montreal	9:00 PM
Thu, Mar 21	vs Buffalo	9:00 PM
Sat, Mar 23	@ Toronto	7:00 PM
Sun, Mar 24	@ Ottawa	6:00 PM
Tue, Mar 26	@ Winnipeg	8:00 PM
Thu, Mar 28	vs Los Angeles	9:00 PM
Sat, Mar 30	vs Anaheim	4:00 PM
Mon, Apr 1	@ St. Louis	9:00 PM
Wed, Apr 3	@ Dallas	9:00 PM
Fri, Apr 5	vs Colorado	9:00 PM
Sat, Apr 6	@ Calgary	10:00 PM
Wed, Apr 10	vs Vegas	8:30 PM
Fri, Apr 12	vs Arizona	9:00 PM
Sat, Apr 13	vs Vancouver	10:00 PM
Mon, Apr 15	vs San Jose	9:30 PM
Wed, Apr 17	@ Arizona	10:00 PM
Thu, Apr 18	@ Colorado	9:30 PM

**Heritage Classic*

BOURGAULT: COURTESY OF BAKERSFIELD CONDORS; BOUCHARD: PERRY NELSON-USA TODAY SPORTS

ORGANIZATIONAL ROSTER

GOALIES	AGE	HT.	WT.	CATCHES	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	W-L-OT	GAA	SP
Jack Campbell	31	6-3	207	Left	Port Huron, Mich.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Edmonton	36	21-9-4	3.41	.888
Nathaniel Day	18	6-2	181	Left	Burlington, Ont.	184th overall (2023)	Flint (OHL)	32	17-10-0	3.91	.874
Ryan Fanti	23	6-3	194	Left	Thunder Bay, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 3/29/22	Fort Wayne (ECHL)	34	15-16-0	3.49	.894
Samuel Jonsson	19	6-5	201	Left	Angelholm, Swe.	158th overall (2022)	Rogle Jr. (Swe.)	27	13-14-0	2.65	.902
Calvin Pickard	31	6-1	210	Left	Moncton, N.B.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Bakersfield (AHL)	38	23-12-2	2.70	.912
Olivier Rodrigue	23	6-1	158	Left	Chicoutimi, Que.	62nd overall (2018)	Bakersfield (AHL)	29	14-14-1	2.77	.912
Stuart Skinner	24	6-4	206	Left	Edmonton, Alta.	78th overall (2017)	Edmonton	50	29-14-5	2.75	.914

DEFENSEMEN	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Beau Akey	18	6-0	173	Right	Waterloo, Ont.	56th overall (2023)	Barrie (OHL)	66	11	36	47	39
Evan Bouchard	23	6-3	194	Right	Oakville, Ont.	10th overall (2018)	Edmonton	82	8	32	40	28
Philip Broberg	22	6-3	199	Left	Orebro, Swe.	8th overall (2019)	Edmonton	46	1	7	8	2
Cody Ceci	29	6-2	210	Right	Ottawa, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/28/21	Edmonton	80	1	14	15	24
Vincent Desharnais	27	6-6	215	Right	Laval, Que.	183rd overall (2016)	Edmonton	36	0	5	5	31
Cam Dineen	25	5-11	188	Left	Toms River, N.J.	Trade: Ari 3/2/23	Tucson/Bakersfield (AHL)	69	6	41	47	14
Mattias Ekholm	33	6-4	215	Left	Borlange, Swe.	Trade: Nsh 2/28/23	Nashville/Edmonton	78	9	23	32	28
Ben Gleason	25	6-1	190	Left	Ortonville, Mich.	Free Agent: signed 7/2/23	Texas (AHL)	68	9	24	33	40
Noel Hoefenmayer	24	6-0	191	Left	Toronto, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Toronto (AHL)	65	11	27	38	114
Philip Kemp	24	6-3	202	Right	Greenwich, Conn.	208th overall (2017)	Bakersfield (AHL)	71	6	15	21	51
Brett Kulak	29	6-1	197	Left	Edmonton, Alta.	Trade: Mtl 3/21/22	Edmonton	82	3	17	20	41
Luca Munzenberger	20	6-2	190	Left	Dusseldorf, Ger.	90th overall (2021)	Vermont (HE)	28	0	5	5	24
Markus Niemelainen	25	6-6	190	Left	Kuopio, Fin.	63rd overall (2016)	Bakersfield (AHL)	30	2	5	7	18
Darnell Nurse	28	6-4	221	Left	Hamilton, Ont.	7th overall (2013)	Edmonton	82	12	31	43	64
Maximus Wanner	20	6-3	185	Right	Estevan, Sask.	212 overall (2021)	Moose Jaw (WHL)	44	8	22	30	45
Nikita Yevseyev	19	6-1	187	Left	Almetyevsk, Rus.	190th overall (2022)	Kazan (KHL)	48	5	2	7	11

CENTERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Carl Berglund	23	6-2	207	Left	Hammaro, Swe.	Free Agent: signed 3/22/23	UMass-Lowell (HE)	36	12	15	27	12
Xavier Bourgault	20	6-0	172	Right	L'Islet, Que.	22nd overall (2021)	Bakersfield (AHL)	62	13	21	34	16
Drake Caggiula	29	5-10	176	Left	Pickering, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	WB/Scranton (AHL)	65	22	31	53	47
Jake Chiasson	20	6-2	165	Right	Abbotsford, B.C.	116th overall (2021)	Brandon/Saskatoon (WHL)	70	20	38	58	26
Matt Copponi	20	5-11	174	Right	Mansfield, Mass.	216th overall (2023)	Merrimack (HE)	37	14	15	29	30
Maxim Denezhkin	22	5-10	165	Left	Yaroslavl, Rus.	193rd overall (2019)	Verkhnyaya Pyshma (Rus.2)	37	8	13	21	90
Leon Draisaitl	27	6-2	208	Left	Cologne, Ger.	3rd overall (2014)	Edmonton	80	52	76	128	24
Seth Griffith	30	5-9	190	Right	Wallaceburg, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 10/9/20	Bakersfield (AHL)	72	17	43	60	32
Jayden Grubbe	20	6-3	201	Right	Calgary, Alta.	Trade: NYR 5/31/23	Red Deer (WHL)	64	18	49	67	71
Mattias Janmark	30	6-1	205	Left	Danderyd, Swe.	Free Agent: signed 7/17/22	Edmonton	66	10	15	25	30
Raphael Lavoie	23	6-4	196	Right	Chambly, Que.	38th overall (2019)	Bakersfield (AHL)	61	25	20	45	47
Joel Maatta	21	6-1	200	Left	Helsinki, Fin.	222nd overall (2022)	Vermont (HE)	36	7	7	14	18
Brad Malone	34	6-2	217	Left	Miramichi, N.B.	Free Agent: signed 7/3/17	Bakersfield (AHL)	41	4	17	21	40
Tomas Mazura	23	6-2	170	Left	Pardubice, Cze.	162nd overall (2019)	St. Lawrence (ECAC)	28	3	9	12	8
Connor McDavid	26	6-1	193	Left	Richmond Hill, Ont.	1st overall (2015)	Edmonton	82	64	89	153	36
Greg McKegg	31	6-0	195	Left	St. Thomas, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Bakersfield (AHL)	66	7	13	20	62
Ryan McLeod	24	6-2	207	Left	Mississauga, Ont.	40th overall (2018)	Edmonton	57	11	12	23	18
Ryan Nugent-Hopkins	30	6-0	195	Left	Burnaby, B.C.	1st overall (2011)	Edmonton	82	37	67	104	35
Lane Pederson	26	6-0	192	Right	Saskatoon, Sask.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Vancouver/Columbus	27	3	3	6	26
Noah Philp	25	6-3	198	Right	Canmore, Alta.	Free Agent: signed 4/6/22	Bakersfield (AHL)	70	19	18	37	61
Derek Ryan	36	5-10	185	Right	Spokane, Wash.	Free Agent: signed 7/28/21	Edmonton	80	13	7	20	28

LEFT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Maksim Berezkin	21	6-2	201	Right	Chita, Rus.	138th overall (2020)	Yaroslavl (KHL)	52	7	19	26	18
Warren Foegele	27	6-2	198	Left	Markham, Ont.	Trade: Car 7/28/21	Edmonton	67	13	15	28	28
James Hamblin	24	5-9	176	Left	Edmonton, Alta.	Free Agent: signed 3/2/22	Bakersfield (AHL)	52	10	18	28	14
Dylan Holloway	22	6-1	203	Left	Calgary, Alta.	14th overall (2020)	Edmonton	51	3	6	9	27
Zach Hyman	31	6-1	211	Right	Toronto, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/28/21	Edmonton	79	36	47	83	39
Evander Kane	32	6-2	210	Left	Vancouver, B.C.	Free Agent: signed 1/27/22	Edmonton	41	16	12	28	53
Shane Lachance	20	6-4	195	Left	Andover, Mass.	186th overall (2021)	Youngstown (USHL)	62	33	21	54	53
Matvey Petrov	20	6-2	178	Right	Gus-Khrustalny, Rus.	180th overall (2021)	North Bay (OHL)	65	27	66	93	32
Carter Savoie	21	5-9	192	Left	St. Albert, Alta.	100th overall (2020)	Bakersfield (AHL)	44	8	3	11	18

RIGHT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Connor Brown	29	6-0	181	Right	Toronto, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Washington	4	0	0	0	0
Jeremias Lindewall	21	6-2	183	Left	Solleftea, Swe.	200th overall (2020)	Ostersund (Swe.2)	35	2	4	6	12
Tyler Tullio	21	5-10	165	Right	Detroit, Mich.	126th overall (2020)	Bakersfield (AHL)	63	13	13	26	18

FLORIDA PANTHERS

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BY **ERIN BROWN**

ALEKSANDER BARKOV MAY wear the 'C' in Florida, but the Panthers are Matthew Tkachuk's team now. The 25-year-old firebrand delivered on every level in his debut season with the Cats, from an All-Star Game MVP on home ice to sparking a magical playoff run. His style of play gave the Panthers a new on-ice identity, which carried the league's 17th-best regular-season team past three of the NHL's top five clubs en route to the Stanley Cup final.

But injuries took a toll in the Cup loss to Vegas, and the aftermath of a gritty charge will bleed into this season. While Tkachuk, who sustained a broken sternum during the final, should be healthy in time for the opener, Florida will start the year without top defensemen Aaron Ekblad and Brandon Montour. Gone entirely are Anthony Duclair, Radko Gudas, Eric Staal, Marc Staal and Patric Hornqvist. Florida needs a wide array of newly signed free agents to gel quickly in order to keep the momentum going.

>OFFENSE

Tkachuk and Barkov are the keys to Florida's offense, but Carter Verhaeghe, Sam Reinhart and Sam Bennett will help drive goal-scoring. Eetu Luostarinen and Anton Lundell are primed for big years after solidifying their importance. The biggest free-agent deal went to Evan Rodrigues, who signed for four years and $12 million. The 30-year-old is a versatile late-bloomer who has the tools to slot in as a fourth-line center but will likely be deployed as a top-six winger. Last season, Panthers defensemen accounted for 53 of the team's 288 goals, including a combined 30 from Ekblad and Montour.

2022-23 NUMBERS

RECORD
42-32-8 (.561)

OVERTIME
4-7

SHOOTOUT
2-1

OVERALL
17th

OFFENSE
3.51 GPG (6th)

DEFENSE
3.32 GAA (21st)

POWER PLAY
22.8% (10th)

PENALTY KILL
76.0% (23rd)

CORSI FOR/60
65.48 (3rd)

CORSI AGAINST/60
55.03 (13th)

ICE TIME LEAD (F)
A. Barkov (21:13)

ICE TIME LEAD (D)
B. Montour (24:08)

FAST FACTS

COACH
Paul Maurice

GM
Bill Zito

ARENA
FLA Live Arena

CAPACITY
19,250

AHL AFFILIATE
Charlotte Checkers

ECHL AFFILIATE
Florida Everblades

PLAYOFF RECORD
20-21 (since 2019)

BARKOV: SERGEI BELSKI-USA TODAY SPORTS

FLORIDA PANTHERS

MATTHEW TKACHUK

TKACHUK: DAVID KIROUAC-USA TODAY SPORTS

>DEFENSE

Florida figured out Paul Maurice's defensive system as the post-season went on, but so much turnover might set the Panthers back in the early stages of this season. Florida has had a knack in recent years for surfacing a Norris Trophy dark horse from within when a top defenseman like Ekblad or Montour goes down. This year, the opportunity falls to Gustav Forsling and Josh Mahura. The team also added veterans Oliver Ekman-Larsson and Mike Reilly. Replacing Gudas' physicality and shot-blocking prowess is a bigger, younger version in 27-year-old Niko Mikkola, who inked a three-year deal. And returning for a second stint on Florida's blueline is 32-year-old Dmitry Kulikov.

>GOALTENDING

Sergei Bobrovsky rediscovered his Vezina Trophy form in the playoffs after an average regular season. 'Bob' carried a solid 2.50 goals-against average and .924 save percentage into Game 5 against Vegas, when the injury-riddled Panthers allowed nine goals. Spencer Knight is expected to return from the NHL/NHLPA assistance program but may start in AHL Charlotte to work back into game shape. The 6-foot-6 Anthony Stolarz will fill in as Bobrovsky's backup until Knight is ready.

>SPECIAL TEAMS

Florida has elite talent on the man advantage, but missing two high-level puck-movers is something the Panthers will have to overcome. Ekman-Larsson and Kulikov are potential options, but they're far from their peak years. It could also spark Maurice to experiment with new solutions to a power play that has gone quiet at inopportune times in recent years. The penalty kill is in need of work. It was poor during the regular season (76.0 percent) and worse in the playoffs (70.4 percent). Improvement here will again largely depend on Florida's defense corps getting on the same page quickly.

>INTANGIBLES

How well-rested will the core be after a deep post-season run? Does Florida have enough depth to withstand losing two top-pair defensemen? Timelines for the returns of Ekblad and Montour stretch well into the regular season – and that's if all goes according to plan. Maurice knew immediately after Game 5 that the upcoming season would be difficult because the injuries were extensive, severe and the turnaround short. Florida has little room for additional setbacks.

CUP ODDS

42/1

>ROOKIES

With all the turnover and injuries, Florida's prospects will have the best opportunity to crack the opening-night lineup in years. Expect to see 2018 first-rounder Grigori Denisenko – who got the Cup final call-up in Tkachuk's absence – and 2021 first-round pick Mackie Samoskevich to get long looks in training camp.

>X-FACTOR

Barkov. He's the Panther who tends to carry the team during its toughest times. With a hobbled lineup, many new faces and big-name veterans (the Staal brothers, Hornqvist) having moved on, Barkov's leadership will be key. A return to his Selke Trophy-winning form is one step, as players feed off the 28-year-old's work ethic.

>THE BRASS

Maurice still has two years left on his contract and is locked in with Florida's core. Bill Zito, meanwhile, finished as a finalist for GM of the year for the second time in three seasons. He's been exceptional at handling a tight salary cap and finding gems to build out Florida's supporting cast.

DEPTH CHART | 2023-24

LEFT WING	CENTER	RIGHT WING
1. Carter Verhaeghe	1. Aleksander Barkov	1. Matthew Tkachuk
2. Evan Rodrigues	2. Sam Bennett	2. Sam Reinhart
3. Eetu Luostarinen	3. Anton Lundell	3. Ryan Lomberg
4. Nick Cousins	4. Steven Lorentz	4. Kevin Stenlund
5. Grigori Denisenko	5. Zac Dalpe	5. Mackie Samoskevich

DEFENSE		GOALIE
1. Aaron Ekblad (INJ)	6. Oliver Ekman-Larsson	1. Sergei Bobrovsky
2. Brandon Montour (INJ)	7. Dmitry Kulikov	2. Spencer Knight
3. Gustav Forsling	8. Mike Reilly	3. Anthony Stolarz
4. Josh Mahura	9. Matt Kiersted	(INJ) INJURED
5. Niko Mikkola	10. Lucas Carlsson	(■) INDICATES NEW ARRIVAL

KEY DEPARTURES & UNSIGNED UFAs Anthony Duclair, LW; Radko Gudas, D; Eric Staal, C; Marc Staal, D; Colin White, C; Patric Hornqvist, RW; Alex Lyon, G

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FUTURE WATCH

WITH PLAYOFF INJURIES AND some departures, the Panthers may have some openings this fall, and the top candidates are Grigori Denisenko (who got into one Stanley Cup final game), Mackie Samoskevich and Justin Sourdif, all of whom bring skill to the table. But there is no surefire candidate, and the pipeline overall is middling. Top 2023 pick Gracyn Sawchyn, a second-rounder, will take on a bigger role with WHL Seattle and has a lot of potential if he can bulk up.

TOP 10 PROSPECTS

1. Mackie Samoskevich, RW
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Michigan (Big Ten)
Cracked 20 goals at Michigan, then arrived in AHL and notched four assists in seven playoff games.
Acquired 24th overall, 2021 **NHL** '24-25

2. Grigori Denisenko, LW
Age 23 **2022-23 Team** Charlotte (AHL)
He'll take punishment to get to scoring areas and convert once he's there. Door to the NHL is open.
Acquired 15th overall, 2018 **NHL** '23-24

3. Gracyn Sawchyn, C
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Seattle (WHL)
Mixes pugnacity with a dash of high-end skill. Key contributor to Seattle's WHL championship.
Acquired 63rd overall, 2023 **NHL** '26-27

4. Justin Sourdif, RW
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** Charlotte (AHL)
He's got playmaking skill but also competes in dirty areas. He'll attack 50-50 pucks with zeal.
Acquired 87th overall, 2020 **NHL** '24-25

5. Mike Benning, D
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** Denver (NCHC)
Lacks ideal size for defender but plays bigger than he is. Defensive game has improved a lot.
Acquired 95th overall, 2020 **NHL** '25-26

6. Evan Nause, D
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Quebec (QMJHL)
Skates so well he'll make a breakout pass and catch up to play as the trailer. Decent in 'D' zone.
Acquired 56th overall, 2021 **NHL** '25-26

7. John Ludvig, D
Age 23 **2022-23 Team** Charlotte (AHL)
At his best when the game has an edge to it. He'll pick his spots and deliver a crunching hit.
Acquired 69th overall, 2019 **NHL** '24-25

8. Marek Alscher, D
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Portland (WHL)
Maintains position and flattens opponents when he can. Creates net-front space with strength.
Acquired 93rd overall, 2022 **NHL** '26-27

9. William Lockwood, RW
Age 25 **2022-23 Team** Hartford (AHL)
Panthers like the speedy, feisty types for the fourth line. He's an ex-Canucks prospect.
Acquired Free agent, July 2, 2023 **NHL** '23-24

10. Albert Wikman, D
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Farjestad Jr. (Swe.)
He's not a scorer, but his performance in five SHL playoff games spoke volumes about maturity.
Acquired 127th overall, 2023 **NHL** '27-28

SCHEDULE | 2023-24

Thu, Oct 12	@ Minnesota	8:00 PM
Sat, Oct 14	@ Winnipeg	4:00 PM
Mon, Oct 16	@ New Jersey	7:00 PM
Thu, Oct 19	vs Toronto	7:00 PM
Sat, Oct 21	vs Vancouver	7:00 PM
Tue, Oct 24	vs San Jose	7:45 PM
Sat, Oct 28	vs Seattle	6:00 PM
Mon, Oct 30	@ Boston	7:00 PM
Thu, Nov 2	@ Detroit	7:00 PM
Sat, Nov 4	@ Chicago	8:00 PM
Mon, Nov 6	vs Columbus	7:00 PM
Wed, Nov 8	@ Washington	7:30 PM
Fri, Nov 10	vs Carolina	7:00 PM
Sun, Nov 12	vs Chicago	1:00 PM
Tue, Nov 14	@ San Jose	10:30 PM
Thu, Nov 16	@ Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Fri, Nov 17	@ Anaheim	10:00 PM
Mon, Nov 20	vs Edmonton	7:00 PM
Wed, Nov 22	vs Boston	7:00 PM
Fri, Nov 24	vs Winnipeg	8:00 PM
Mon, Nov 27	@ Ottawa	7:00 PM
Tue, Nov 28	@ Toronto	7:00 PM
Thu, Nov 30	@ Montreal	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 2	vs NY Islanders	6:00 PM
Wed, Dec 6	vs Dallas	7:00 PM
Fri, Dec 8	vs Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Sun, Dec 10	@ Columbus	1:00 PM
Tue, Dec 12	@ Seattle	10:00 PM
Thu, Dec 14	@ Vancouver	10:00 PM
Sat, Dec 16	@ Edmonton	10:00 PM
Mon, Dec 18	@ Calgary	9:30 PM
Thu, Dec 21	vs St. Louis	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 23	vs Vegas	3:00 PM
Wed, Dec 27	@ Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Fri, Dec 29	vs NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 30	vs Montreal	7:00 PM
Tue, Jan 2	@ Arizona	9:00 PM
Thu, Jan 4	@ Vegas	10:00 PM
Sat, Jan 6	@ Colorado	4:00 PM
Tue, Jan 9	@ St. Louis	8:00 PM
Thu, Jan 11	vs Los Angeles	7:00 PM
Sat, Jan 13	vs New Jersey	6:00 PM
Mon, Jan 15	vs Anaheim	1:00 PM
Wed, Jan 17	vs Detroit	7:00 PM
Fri, Jan 19	vs Minnesota	7:00 PM
Mon, Jan 22	@ Nashville	8:00 PM
Wed, Jan 24	vs Arizona	7:00 PM
Fri, Jan 26	@ Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Sat, Jan 27	@ NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Tue, Feb 6	vs Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Thu, Feb 8	vs Washington	7:00 PM
Sat, Feb 10	vs Colorado	6:00 PM
Wed, Feb 14	@ Pittsburgh	7:30 PM
Thu, Feb 15	@ Buffalo	7:00 PM
Sat, Feb 17	@ Tampa Bay	5:00 PM
Tue, Feb 20	vs Ottawa	7:00 PM
Thu, Feb 22	@ Carolina	7:00 PM
Sat, Feb 24	vs Washington	6:00 PM
Tue, Feb 27	vs Buffalo	7:00 PM
Thu, Feb 29	vs Montreal	7:00 PM
Sat, Mar 2	@ Detroit	7:00 PM
Mon, Mar 4	@ NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Tue, Mar 5	@ New Jersey	7:00 PM
Thu, Mar 7	vs Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Sat, Mar 9	vs Calgary	4:00 PM
Tue, Mar 12	@ Dallas	8:00 PM
Thu, Mar 14	@ Carolina	7:00 PM
Sat, Mar 16	vs Tampa Bay	6:00 PM
Thu, Mar 21	vs Nashville	7:00 PM
Sat, Mar 23	@ NY Rangers	8:00 PM
Sun, Mar 24	@ Philadelphia	6:00 PM
Tue, Mar 26	vs Boston	7:00 PM
Thu, Mar 28	vs NY Islanders	7:00 PM
Sat, Mar 30	vs Detroit	12:30 PM
Mon, Apr 1	@ Toronto	7:00 PM
Tue, Apr 2	@ Montreal	7:00 PM
Thu, Apr 4	@ Ottawa	7:00 PM
Sat, Apr 6	@ Boston	3:30 PM
Tue, Apr 9	vs Ottawa	7:00 PM
Thu, Apr 11	vs Columbus	7:00 PM
Sat, Apr 13	vs Buffalo	5:00 PM
Tue, Apr 16	vs Toronto	7:00 PM

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ORGANIZATIONAL ROSTER

FLORIDA PANTHERS

GOALIES	AGE	HT.	WT.	CATCHES	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	W-L-OT	GAA	SP
Sergei Bobrovsky	35	6-2	182	Left	Novokuznetsk, Rus.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/19	Florida	50	24-20-3	3.07	.901
Kirill Gerasimyuk	20	6-2	178	Left	St. Petersburg, Rus.	152nd overall (2021)	SKA-1946 St. Pete. Jr. (Rus.)	24	15-4-4	1.82	.932
Olof Glifford	18	6-4	191	Left	Sweden	159th overall (2023)	HV71 U18 (Swe.)	11	6-5-0	2.56	.929
Mack Guzda	22	6-5	215	Left	Knoxville, Tenn.	Free Agent: signed 2/7/22	Charlotte (AHL)	29	16-9-3	2.88	.897
Spencer Knight	22	6-3	192	Left	Darien, Conn.	13th overall (2019)	Florida	21	9-8-3	3.18	.901
Tyler Muszelik	19	6-3	195	Left	Long Valley, N.J.	189th overall (2022)	New Hampshire (HE)	13	4-7-2	3.24	.883
Anthony Stolarz	29	6-6	243	Left	Edison, N.J.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Anaheim	19	5-6-0	3.73	.899
Ludovic Waeber	27	6-1	176	Left	Fribourg, Sui.	Free Agent: signed 6/12/23	Zurich (Sui.)	19	8-9-1	2.50	.914

DEFENSEMEN	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Marek Alscher	19	6-3	196	Left	Slany, Cze.	93rd overall (2022)	Portland (WHL)	60	8	16	24	67
Uvis Balinskis	27	6-0	187	Left	Ventspils, Lat.	Free Agent: signed 4/18/23	Liberec (Cze.)	50	11	24	35	22
Mike Benning	21	5-9	177	Right	Edmonton, Alta.	95th overall (2020)	Denver (NCHC)	39	13	21	34	38
Carter Berger	24	6-0	200	Left	North Vancouver, B.C.	106th overall (2019)	Western Michigan (NCHC)	33	5	18	23	16
Lucas Carlsson	26	6-0	189	Left	Gavle, Swe.	Trade: Chi 4/8/21	Charlotte (AHL)	61	20	34	54	42
Luke Coughlin	18	5-10	170	Left	Charlottetown, P.E.I.	191st overall (2023)	Rimouski (QMJHL)	37	5	14	19	16
Aaron Ekblad	27	6-4	215	Right	Windsor, Ont.	1st overall (2014)	Florida	71	14	24	38	68
Oliver Ekman-Larsson	32	6-2	200	Left	Karlskrona, Swe.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Vancouver	54	2	20	22	22
Casey Fitzgerald	26	5-11	188	Right	North Reading, Mass.	Waivers: Buf 1/11/23	Buffalo/Florida	27	0	3	3	4
Gustav Forsling	27	6-0	186	Left	Linkoping, Swe.	Waivers: Car 1/9/21	Florida	82	13	28	41	40
Ludvig Jansson	19	6-0	176	Right	Stockholm, Swe.	125th overall (2022)	Sodertalje (Swe.2)	44	1	9	10	10
Matt Kiersted	25	6-0	181	Left	Elk River, Minn.	Free Agent: signed 4/1/21	Charlotte (AHL)	49	6	15	21	44
Santtu Kinnunen	24	6-3	154	Right	Lahti, Fin.	207th overall (2018)	Charlotte (AHL)	69	9	26	35	24
Dmitry Kulikov	32	6-1	201	Left	Lipetsk, Rus.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Anaheim/Pittsburgh	67	3	13	16	34
John Ludvig	23	6-1	213	Left	Liberec, Cze.	69th overall (2019)	Charlotte (AHL)	54	3	14	17	72
Vladislav Lukashevich	20	6-2	167	Left	Magadan, Rus.	120th overall (2021)	Loko Yaroslavl Jr. (Rus.)	45	2	16	18	14
Josh Mahura	25	6-0	185	Left	St. Albert, Alta.	Waivers: Ana 10/10/22	Florida	82	4	12	16	48
Niko Mikkola	27	6-4	209	Left	Kiiminki, Fin.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	St. Louis/NY Rangers	81	1	5	6	58
Brandon Montour	29	6-0	194	Right	Brantford, Ont.	Trade: Buf 4/10/21	Florida	80	16	57	73	107
Evan Nause	20	6-2	186	Left	White Rock, B.C.	56th overall (2021)	Quebec (QMJHL)	40	5	24	29	40
Kasper Puutio	21	5-11	180	Right	Vaasa, Fin.	153rd overall (2020)	KalPa (Fin.)	48	3	8	11	20
Mike Reilly	30	6-1	196	Left	Chicago, Ill.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Providence (AHL)	36	7	19	26	34
Calle Sjalin	24	6-1	179	Left	Ostersund, Swe.	Free Agent: signed 6/10/22	Charlotte (AHL)	39	5	3	8	22
Nathan Staios	22	5-8	170	Left	Atlanta, Ga.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Florida (ECHL)	44	4	14	18	14
Zachary Uens	22	6-1	180	Left	Belleville, Ont.	105th overall (2020)	Florida (ECHL)	35	3	1	4	28
Albert Wikman	18	6-1	191	Left	Arvika, Swe.	127th overall (2023)	Farjestad Jr. (Swe.)	43	2	10	12	47

CENTERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Liam Arnsby	19	5-10	181	Right	Ajax, Ont.	214th overall (2022)	North Bay (OHL)	54	12	18	30	78
Rasmus Asplund	25	5-11	185	Left	Filipstad, Swe.	Free Agent: signed 7/5/23	Buffalo/Nashville	46	2	6	8	4
Aleksander Barkov	28	6-3	215	Left	Tampere, Fin.	2nd overall (2013)	Florida	68	23	55	78	8
Sam Bennett	27	6-1	195	Left	Holland Landing, Ont.	Trade: Cgy 4/12/21	Florida	63	16	24	40	54
Nick Cousins	30	5-11	192	Left	Belleville, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Florida	79	9	18	27	38
Zac Dalpe	33	6-2	197	Right	Paris, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/30/21	Charlotte (AHL)	47	21	14	35	19
Elliot Ekmark	21	5-9	162	Left	Linkoping, Swe.	198th overall (2020)	Bjorkloven (Swe.2)	16	2	1	3	0
Aleksi Heponiemi	24	5-10	155	Left	Tampere, Fin.	40th overall (2017)	Charlotte (AHL)	62	12	31	43	12
Owen Lindmark	22	6-0	192	Right	Enid, Okla.	137th overall (2019)	Wisconsin (Big Ten)	36	4	5	9	10
Steven Lorentz	27	6-4	206	Left	Kitchener, Ont.	Trade: SJ 7/1/23	San Jose	80	10	9	19	16
Anton Lundell	21	6-1	185	Left	Espoo, Fin.	12th overall (2020)	Florida	73	12	21	33	43
Eetu Luostarinen	25	6-3	190	Left	Siilinjarvi, Fin.	Trade: Car 2/24/20	Florida	82	17	26	43	28
Gerry Mayhew	30	5-9	161	Right	Wyandotte, Mich.	Free Agent: signed 7/15/22	Charlotte (AHL)	69	24	20	44	68
Ryan McAllister	21	5-10	183	Left	London, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 4/3/23	Western Michigan (NCHC)	39	13	36	49	14
Sam Reinhart	27	6-2	193	Right	West Vancouver, B.C.	Trade: Buf 7/24/21	Florida	82	31	36	67	12
Evan Rodrigues	30	5-11	184	Right	Toronto, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/2/23	Colorado	69	16	23	39	30
Aleksi Saarela	26	5-10	200	Left	Helsinki, Fin.	Trade: Chi 10/23/19	Langnau (Sui.)	48	24	15	39	10
Gracyn Sawchyn	18	5-11	157	Right	Grande Prairie, Alta.	63rd overall (2023)	Seattle (WHL)	58	18	40	58	68
Kevin Stenlund	27	6-5	215	Right	Stockholm, Swe.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Winnipeg	54	6	3	9	20
Alexander True	26	6-5	213	Left	Copenhagen, Den.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Coachella Valley (AHL)	72	11	21	32	48
Carter Verhaeghe	28	6-2	180	Left	Toronto, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 10/9/20	Florida	81	42	31	73	46

LEFT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Josh Davies	19	5-9	197	Left	Calgary, Alta.	186th overall (2022)	Swift Current (WHL)	62	20	14	34	131
Grigori Denisenko	23	5-11	186	Right	Novosibirsk, Rus.	15th overall (2018)	Charlotte (AHL)	56	12	24	36	39
Jakub Kos	20	6-2	174	Left	Kurim, Cze.	184th overall (2021)	Koovee (Fin.2)	24	4	15	19	6
Ryan Lomberg	29	5-9	187	Left	Richmond Hill, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 10/9/20	Florida	82	12	8	20	88
Kai Schwindt	19	6-4	193	Left	Kitchener, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 9/30/22	Mississauga (OHL)	67	12	13	25	5
Matthew Tkachuk	25	6-2	201	Left	Scottsdale, Ariz.	Trade: Cgy 7/22/22	Florida	79	40	69	109	123
Sandis Vilmanis	19	6-1	192	Left	Riga, Lat.	157th overall (2022)	Sarnia (OHL)	62	20	25	45	14
Stepan Zvyagin	19	6-0	161	Left	Moscow, Rus.	198th overall (2023)	Shinnik Bobruysk Jr. (Rus.)	37	14	19	33	4

RIGHT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Jack Devine	20	5-11	173	Right	Glencoe, Ill.	221st overall (2022)	Denver (NCHC)	38	14	17	31	19
Patrick Giles	23	6-4	203	Right	Chevy Chase, Md.	Free Agent: signed 9/20/22	Charlotte (AHL)	72	3	10	13	28
Logan Hutsko	24	5-10	172	Right	Tampa, Fla.	89th overall (2018)	Charlotte (AHL)	42	9	18	27	14
Egor Korshkov	27	6-4	180	Left	Novosibirsk, Rus.	Trade: Car 3/21/22	Yaroslavl (KHL)	40	4	8	12	35
William Lockwood	25	5-11	172	Right	Royal Oak, Mich.	Free Agent: signed 7/2/23	Abbotsford/Hartford (AHL)	43	17	13	30	22
Mackie Samoskevich	20	5-11	191	Right	Newtown, Conn.	24th overall (2021)	Michigan (Big Ten)	39	20	23	43	28
Justin Sourdif	21	5-11	173	Right	Richmond, B.C.	87th overall (2020)	Charlotte (AHL)	48	7	17	24	32

LOS ANGELES KINGS

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BY **DOUG WARD**

MAYBE IT WAS THE writers' strike in Hollywood, but the Kings' playoff ouster in Edmonton last spring felt like a recycled script. A captivating 104-point regular season was spoiled by the predictable finale – a first-round loss to the Oilers. Worse yet, the Kings have not won a playoff series since 2014.

Like any good Hollywood executive, GM Rob Blake brought in a new cast member, Pierre-Luc Dubois, to change the chemistry. Dubois won't arrive wearing a cape, but after adding him to the existing core of Anze Kopitar, Drew Doughty, Kevin Fiala and Adrian Kempe, Los Angeles has a group capable of avenging its annual losses to Edmonton. The Kings have successfully integrated youngsters, eased out veterans and acquired prime-time players. If they can learn from the past, they just might flip the script on Edmonton and the rest of the NHL.

>OFFENSE

The Kings are far from a powerhouse, but with 3.34 goals per game, they finished 10th in the league in scoring, a marked improvement from their 2.87 goals per game in 2021-22 (20th overall). The uptick can be traced to the continued ascent of Kempe (41 goals) and the arrival of Fiala, who netted 23 goals in his first season in L.A. Newcomer Dubois (27 goals) will up the firepower, but it comes at a cost; the Kings will need to compensate for the exits of Gabe Vilardi, Alex Iafallo and Rasmus Kupari, who combined for 40 goals. Lady Byng Trophy winner Kopitar (28 goals) had a return to form, while Viktor Arvidsson (26 goals) and Phillip Danault (18 goals) provided balance. Doughty's 52 points paced the defense.

2022-23 NUMBERS

RECORD
47-25-10 (.634)

OVERTIME
4-7

SHOOTOUT
6-3

OVERALL
10th

OFFENSE
3.34 GPG (10th)

DEFENSE
3.10 GAA (16th)

POWER PLAY
25.3% (4th)

PENALTY KILL
75.8% (24th)

CORSI FOR/60
58.77 (9th)

CORSI AGAINST/60
53.53 (5th)

ICE TIME LEAD (F)
A. Kopitar (20:18)

ICE TIME LEAD (D)
D. Doughty (26:14)

FAST FACTS

COACH
Todd McLellan

GM
Rob Blake

ARENA
Crypto.com Arena

CAPACITY
18,230

AHL AFFILIATE
Ontario Reign

ECHL AFFILIATE
Greenville Swamp Rabbits

PLAYOFF RECORD
5-8 (since 2019)

KOPITAR: ERIC BOLTE-USA TODAY SPORTS

LOS ANGELES KINGS

DREW DOUGHTY

>DEFENSE

Los Angeles cannot rely on winning by outscoring opponents or through stellar goaltending, so defensive responsibility is paramount. By allowing 3.10 goals per game last season, the Kings ranked a middling 16th overall. At 33, Doughty remains tireless, playing in 81 games and logging more total minutes than any other NHL skater, and he led L.A. blueliners in goals, assists and points. The pairing Doughty forms with Mikey Anderson gives the Kings a shutdown tandem that ranks among the league's best in limiting shots on goal. Anderson's reliable and physical defensive play earned him an eight-year extension. Vladislav Gavrikov was effective after a mid-season arrival and signed on for a two-year extension.

>GOALTENDING

The storyline in net leans more toward Disney inspirational than Marvel Universe. Superhero Jonathan Quick will play out the twilight of his career on Broadway, while a new day dawns in L.A. With limited cap space, the Kings brought in vet Cam Talbot a one-year, $1-million deal. He'll split time with Pheonix Copley, who provided a quick fix last year, winning nine of his first 10 games and eventually earning an extension through 2023-24.

>SPECIAL TEAMS

First-year assistant Jim Hiller oversaw the power play and made a pronounced impact, as the Kings converted on 25.3 percent of their chances (fourth in the league), just a year after they finished 27th with a success rate of 16.1 percent. They were even better in the playoffs, with a 33.3-percent success rate. The penalty kill, however, killed the Kings: L.A. finished 24th, with a 75.8-percent efficiency. In the playoffs, the Kings killed just 43.8 percent of their shorthanded situations, and it cost them dearly in their loss to Edmonton, as the Oilers converted on a devastating nine of 16 power plays.

>INTANGIBLES

Dubois arrives with a checkered past, eager to reinvent himself. Emulating the work habits and leadership skills of Kopitar and Doughty may be his best move. When Blake signed Kopitar to a two-year extension (which begins in 2024-25), he signed the walking, talking, hardworking embodiment of Kings hockey, while Doughty has eclipsed Blake as the franchise's greatest D-man. With those two future Hall of Famers in the room, the Kings' culture is rock-solid.

CUP ODDS

27/1

>ROOKIES

How the next wave of prospects performs at the NHL level will be pivotal in L.A. taking the next step. Defenseman Brandt Clarke appears ready, and winger Samuel Fagemo is on the cusp. Center Francesco Pinelli is probably a year away but is worth watching. The biggest challenge for winger Alex Turcotte, the No. 5 overall pick in 2019, is staying healthy.

>X-FACTOR

If the goaltending exceeds expectations, the Kings will be good. If not, they'll regress. And if Dubois helps the Kings score more than the 2.85 playoff goals they've averaged over 13 post-season games against Edmonton recently, that would go a long way toward slaying their playoff nemesis.

>THE BRASS

Owner Philip Anschutz prefers to be hands-off, leaving president Luc Robitaille to keep the Kings relevant in a crowded market. No longer content to let things develop slowly, Blake cut to the chase, making aggressive moves, determined to give his team everything it needs for a Hollywood ending.

DEPTH CHART | 2023-24

LEFT WING	CENTER	RIGHT WING
1. Kevin Fiala	1. Anze Kopitar	1. Adrian Kempe
2. Quinton Byfield	2. Pierre-Luc Dubois	2. Arthur Kaliyev
3. Trevor Moore	3. Phillip Danault	3. Viktor Arvidsson
4. Carl Grundstrom	4. Blake Lizotte	4. Trevor Lewis
5. Alex Turcotte	5. Jaret Anderson-Dolan	5. Samuel Fagemo

DEFENSE		GOALIE
1. Drew Doughty	6. Brandt Clarke	1. Pheonix Copley
2. Mikey Anderson	7. Jordan Spence	2. Cam Talbot
3. Vladislav Gavrikov	8. Andreas Englund	3. David Rittich
4. Matt Roy	9. Jacob Moverare	INJURED
5. Tobias Bjornfot	10. Kevin Connauton	INDICATES NEW ARRIVAL

KEY DEPARTURES & UNSIGNED UFAs Joonas Korpisalo, G; Gabe Vilardi, C; Alex Iafallo, LW; Sean Durzi, D; Alexander Edler, D; Sean Walker, D; Rasmus Kupari, C; Cal Petersen, G

DOUGHTY: PERRY NELSON-USA TODAY SPORTS

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FUTURE WATCH

FEW TEAMS COULD GIVE up youngsters such as Gabe Vilardi and Rasmus Kupari – as the Kings did in the Pierre-Luc Dubois trade – and still have a top-notch pipeline, but that's what happens when you draft early and often for several years. GM Rob Blake and staff had to be more creative in 2023, nabbing big defenseman Jakub Dvorak in the second round and landing a sleeper goalie prospect in Hampton Slukynsky, who played for Warroad high school in Minnesota, in the fourth round.

TOP 10 PROSPECTS

1. Brandt Clarke, D
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Barrie (OHL)
As good as any prospect at turning defense into offense. He's readymade for an NHL power play.
Acquired 8th overall, 2021 **NHL** '23-24

2. Alex Turcotte, C
Age 22 **2022-23 Team** Ontario (AHL)
No big statistical leap in the AHL, but strong two-way game is an asset. Kings crowded at center.
Acquired 5th overall, 2019 **NHL** '24-25

3. Tobias Bjornfot, D
Age 22 **2022-23 Team** Ontario (AHL)
AHL assignment was a bump in the road for smooth-skating D-man. He'll be back with Kings.
Acquired 22nd overall, 2019 **NHL** '23-24

4. Samuel Fagemo, LW
Age 23 **2022-23 Team** Ontario (AHL)
He makes important plays at both ends of the ice and is a sneaky goal-scorer. Very versatile.
Acquired 50th overall, 2019 **NHL** '24-25

5. Jakub Dvorak, D
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Liberec (Cze.)
It's no mirage: he really does move that well for a 6-foot-5 rearguard. Puck skills need work.
Acquired 54th overall, 2023 **NHL** '26-27

6. Alex Laferriere, RW
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** Harvard (ECAC)
Hobey Baker Award nominee has a good shot and hockey sense. He has some sandpaper, too.
Acquired 83rd overall, 2020 **NHL** '25-26

7. Francesco Pinelli, C
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Kitchener (OHL)
Rangers captain exploded in third OHL season. He doesn't hesitate to get the puck on net.
Acquired 42nd overall, 2021 **NHL** '25-26

8. Samuel Helenius, C
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Ontario (AHL)
Towers over defenders and uses size to his advantage. Far better skater than his frame suggests.
Acquired 59th overall, 2021 **NHL** '25-26

9. Jack Hughes, C
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Northeastern (HE)
Production stalled as NCAA sophomore. It's worrying, but Kings are ready to be patient with him.
Acquired 51st overall, 2022 **NHL** '26-27

10. Koehn Ziemmer, RW
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Prince George (WHL)
Timing is everything, and he has a knack for being Johnny-on-the-spot. That masks his so-so skating.
Acquired 78th overall, 2023 **NHL** '27-28

SCHEDULE | 2023-24

Wed, Oct 11	vs Colorado	10:00 PM
Sat, Oct 14	vs Carolina	10:30 PM
Tue, Oct 17	@ Winnipeg	8:00 PM
Thu, Oct 19	@ Minnesota	8:00 PM
Sat, Oct 21	vs Boston	10:30 PM
Tue, Oct 24	vs Arizona	10:30 PM
Fri, Oct 27	@ Arizona	10:00 PM
Sat, Oct 28	vs Vegas	10:30 PM
Tue, Oct 31	@ Toronto	8:00 PM
Thu, Nov 2	@ Ottawa	7:00 PM
Sat, Nov 4	@ Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Wed, Nov 8	@ Vegas	10:00 PM
Thu, Nov 9	vs Pittsburgh	10:30 PM
Sat, Nov 11	vs Philadelphia	10:30 PM
Thu, Nov 16	vs Florida	10:30 PM
Sat, Nov 18	vs St. Louis	10:30 PM
Mon, Nov 20	@ Arizona	9:00 PM
Fri, Nov 24	@ Anaheim	4:00 PM
Sat, Nov 25	vs Montreal	4:00 PM
Wed, Nov 29	vs Washington	10:30 PM
Sun, Dec 3	vs Colorado	8:00 PM
Tue, Dec 5	@ Columbus	7:00 PM
Thu, Dec 7	@ Montreal	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 9	@ NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Sun, Dec 10	@ NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Wed, Dec 13	vs Winnipeg	10:30 PM
Sat, Dec 16	@ Seattle	10:00 PM
Tue, Dec 19	@ San Jose	10:30 PM
Wed, Dec 20	vs Seattle	10:00 PM
Sat, Dec 23	vs Calgary	10:00 PM
Wed, Dec 27	vs San Jose	10:00 PM
Thu, Dec 28	@ Vegas	10:00 PM
Sat, Dec 30	vs Edmonton	10:00 PM
Tue, Jan 2	vs Toronto	10:30 PM
Thu, Jan 4	vs Detroit	10:30 PM
Sun, Jan 7	@ Washington	3:00 PM
Tue, Jan 9	@ Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Thu, Jan 11	@ Florida	7:00 PM
Sat, Jan 13	@ Detroit	7:00 PM
Mon, Jan 15	@ Carolina	3:00 PM
Tue, Jan 16	@ Dallas	8:00 PM
Thu, Jan 18	vs Nashville	9:30 PM
Sat, Jan 20	vs NY Rangers	10:30 PM
Mon, Jan 22	vs San Jose	10:30 PM
Wed, Jan 24	vs Buffalo	10:30 PM
Fri, Jan 26	@ Colorado	9:00 PM
Sun, Jan 28	@ St. Louis	2:00 PM
Wed, Jan 31	@ Nashville	7:30 PM
Sat, Feb 10	vs Edmonton	10:00 PM
Tue, Feb 13	@ Buffalo	7:00 PM
Thu, Feb 15	@ New Jersey	7:00 PM
Sat, Feb 17	@ Boston	5:00 PM
Sun, Feb 18	@ Pittsburgh	6:00 PM
Tue, Feb 20	vs Columbus	10:30 PM
Thu, Feb 22	vs Nashville	10:30 PM
Sat, Feb 24	vs Anaheim	10:30 PM
Mon, Feb 26	@ Edmonton	9:30 PM
Tue, Feb 27	@ Calgary	9:00 PM
Thu, Feb 29	@ Vancouver	10:00 PM
Sun, Mar 3	vs New Jersey	3:30 PM
Tue, Mar 5	vs Vancouver	10:30 PM
Thu, Mar 7	vs Ottawa	10:30 PM
Sat, Mar 9	vs Dallas	10:30 PM
Mon, Mar 11	vs NY Islanders	10:30 PM
Wed, Mar 13	@ St. Louis	7:30 PM
Fri, Mar 15	@ Chicago	8:30 PM
Sat, Mar 16	@ Dallas	8:00 PM
Tue, Mar 19	vs Chicago	10:30 PM
Wed, Mar 20	vs Minnesota	10:00 PM
Sat, Mar 23	vs Tampa Bay	10:30 PM
Mon, Mar 25	@ Vancouver	9:00 PM
Thu, Mar 28	@ Edmonton	9:00 PM
Sat, Mar 30	@ Calgary	10:00 PM
Mon, Apr 1	@ Winnipeg	9:00 PM
Wed, Apr 3	vs Seattle	10:00 PM
Thu, Apr 4	@ San Jose	10:30 PM
Sat, Apr 6	vs Vancouver	10:00 PM
Tue, Apr 9	@ Anaheim	10:00 PM
Thu, Apr 11	vs Calgary	10:30 PM
Sat, Apr 13	vs Anaheim	10:30 PM
Mon, Apr 15	vs Minnesota	9:30 PM
Thu, Apr 18	vs Chicago	10:30 PM

CLARKE: JOSH KIM; FIALA: PERRY NELSON-USA TODAY SPORTS

ORGANIZATIONAL ROSTER

LOS ANGELES KINGS

GOALIES	AGE	HT.	WT.	CATCHES	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	W-L-OT	GAA	SP
Pheonix Copley	31	6-4	200	Left	North Pole, Alaska	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Los Angeles	37	24-6-3	2.64	.903
Juho Markkanen	21	6-2	146	Left	Edmonton, Alta.	112th overall (2020)	Berlin (Ger.)	18	7-11-0	3.04	.894
Erik Portillo	23	6-6	218	Left	Gothenburg, Swe.	Trade: Buf 3/1/23	Michigan (Big Ten)	38	25-11-2	3.00	.908
David Rittich	31	6-4	205	Left	Jihlava, Cze.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Winnipeg	21	9-8-1	2.68	.901
Hampton Slukynsky	18	6-1	179	Left	Roseau, Minn.	118th overall (2023)	Warroad (USHS)	30	28-1-1	1.47	.941
Cam Talbot	36	6-4	201	Left	Caledonia, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Ottawa	36	17-14-2	2.93	.898

DEFENSEMEN	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Mikey Anderson	24	6-0	195	Left	Roseville, Minn.	103rd overall (2017)	Los Angeles	77	5	15	20	40
Tobias Bjornfot	22	6-0	200	Left	Upplands Vasby, Swe.	22nd overall (2019)	Ontario (AHL)	50	5	7	12	8
Angus Booth	19	6-0	177	Left	Montreal, Que.	116th overall (2022)	Shawinigan (QMJHL)	62	3	16	19	62
Brandt Clarke	20	6-2	185	Right	Nepean, Ont.	8th overall (2021)	Barrie (OHL)	31	23	38	61	28
Kevin Connauton	33	6-2	205	Left	Edmonton, Alta.	Trade: Phi 6/6/23	Lehigh Valley (AHL)	63	3	12	15	49
Drew Doughty	33	6-1	210	Right	London, Ont.	2nd overall (2008)	Los Angeles	81	9	43	52	34
Braden Doyle	22	5-11	162	Left	Beverly, Mass.	157th overall (2019)	Northeastern (HE)	23	1	7	8	6
Jakub Dvorak	18	6-5	203	Left	Liberec, Cze.	54th overall (2023)	Liberec (Cze.)	24	0	2	2	6
Alexander Edler	37	6-4	210	Left	Ostersund, Swe.	Free Agent: signed 7/28/21	Los Angeles	64	2	9	11	34
Andreas Englund	27	6-3	189	Left	Stockholm, Swe.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Colorado/Chicago (AHL)	47	0	4	4	35
Vladislav Gavrikov	27	6-3	221	Left	Yaroslavl, Rus.	Trade: Clb 3/1/23	Columbus/Los Angeles	72	6	13	19	38
Joe Hicketts	27	5-8	176	Left	Kamloops, B.C.	Free Agent: signed 7/2/23	Iowa (AHL)	72	6	42	48	69
Kirill Kirsanov	21	6-1	198	Left	Tver, Rus.	84th overall (2021)	SKA-Neva St. Pete. (Rus.2)	31	4	10	14	14
Cole Krygier	23	6-3	192	Left	Orlando, Fla.	Trade: Fla 3/20/23	Michigan State (Big Ten)	38	10	6	16	60
Matthew Mania	18	6-1	180	Right	Brandon, Fla.	150th overall (2023)	Sudbury (OHL)	67	10	28	38	42
Ben Meehan	22	6-0	178	Left	Boston, Mass.	140th overall (2020)	UMass-Lowell (HE)	34	4	13	17	43
Jacob Moverare	25	6-3	210	Left	Ostersund, Swe.	112th overall (2016)	Ontario (AHL)	62	4	22	26	37
Kim Nousiainen	22	5-9	170	Left	Leppavirta, Fin.	119th overall (2019)	Ontario (AHL)	37	2	4	6	4
Matt Roy	28	6-1	205	Right	Detroit, Mich.	194th overall (2015)	Los Angeles	82	9	17	26	22
Otto Salin	19	5-11	187	Right	Helsinki, Fin.	148th overall (2022)	HIFK (Fin.)	27	2	6	8	10
Steven Santini	28	6-2	209	Right	Bronxville, N.Y.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Springfield (AHL)	64	2	8	10	32
Jack Sparkes	19	6-7	227	Right	Ottawa, Ont.	180th overall (2022)	Lincoln/Muskegon (USHL)	53	1	7	8	133
Jordan Spence	22	5-10	180	Right	Manly, Aus.	95th overall (2019)	Ontario (AHL)	56	4	41	45	34

CENTERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Jaret Anderson-Dolan	24	5-11	200	Left	Calgary, Alta.	41st overall (2017)	Los Angeles	46	7	5	12	2
Quinton Byfield	21	6-5	220	Left	Newmarket, Ont.	2nd overall (2020)	Los Angeles	53	3	19	22	30
Kenny Connors	20	6-1	199	Left	Glen Mills, Pa.	103rd overall (2022)	UMass (HE)	32	9	17	26	8
Phillip Danault	30	6-1	200	Left	Victoriaville, Que.	Free Agent: signed 7/28/21	Los Angeles	82	18	36	54	63
Alexander Dergachyov	27	6-4	200	Left	Langepas, Rus.	74th overall (2015)	Omsk (KHL)	60	7	8	15	18
Pierre-Luc Dubois	25	6-4	214	Left	Ste-Agathe-des-Monts, Que.	Trade: Wpg 6/27/23	Winnipeg	73	27	36	63	77
Samuel Helenius	20	6-6	201	Left	Dallas, Texas	59th overall (2021)	Ontario (AHL)	61	2	12	14	59
Jack Hughes	19	5-11	170	Left	Westwood, Mass.	51st overall (2022)	Northeastern (HE)	32	5	11	16	16
Anze Kopitar	36	6-3	225	Left	Jesenice, Slo.	11th overall (2005)	Los Angeles	82	28	46	74	4
Kaleb Lawrence	20	6-7	230	Left	Ottawa, Ont.	215th overall (2022)	Owen Sound (OHL)	50	16	21	37	75
Trevor Lewis	36	6-1	201	Right	Salt Lake City, Utah	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Calgary	82	9	11	20	18
Blake Lizotte	25	5-9	170	Left	Lindstrom, Minn.	Free Agent: signed 4/2/19	Los Angeles	81	11	23	34	70
Tyler Madden	23	5-11	170	Right	Albany, N.Y.	Trade: Van 2/17/20	Ontario (AHL)	71	20	13	33	12
Francesco Pinelli	20	6-0	185	Left	Hamilton, Ont.	42nd overall (2021)	Kitchener (OHL)	60	41	49	90	56
Akil Thomas	23	6-0	195	Right	Toronto, Ont.	51st overall (2018)	Ontario (AHL)	13	5	3	8	8
Alex Turcotte	22	5-11	185	Left	Elk Grove, Ill.	5th overall (2019)	Ontario (AHL)	32	6	11	17	18
T.J. Tynan	31	5-8	160	Right	Orland Park, Ill.	Free Agent: signed 7/28/21	Ontario (AHL)	72	8	73	81	44

LEFT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Samuel Fagemo	23	6-0	200	Right	Gothenburg, Swe.	50th overall (2019)	Ontario (AHL)	56	23	9	32	8
Kevin Fiala	27	5-10	204	Left	St. Gallen, Sui.	Trade: Min 6/29/22	Los Angeles	69	23	49	72	52
Andre Lee	23	6-5	206	Left	Karlstad, Swe.	188th overall (2019)	Ontario (AHL)	58	6	3	9	38
Mikhail Maltsev	25	6-3	198	Left	St. Petersburg, Rus.	Trade: NJ 7/15/21	Colorado (AHL)	28	11	10	21	8
Trevor Moore	28	5-10	195	Left	Thousand Oaks, Calif.	Trade: Tor 2/5/20	Los Angeles	59	10	19	29	14
Bulat Shafigullin	23	6-1	165	Left	Nizhnekamsk, Rus.	82nd overall (2018)	Nizhnekamsk (KHL)	30	4	9	13	14

RIGHT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Viktor Arvidsson	30	5-10	185	Right	Skelleftea, Swe.	Trade: Nsh 7/1/21	Los Angeles	77	26	33	59	24
Martin Chromiak	21	6-0	187	Right	Ilava, Svk.	128th overall (2020)	Ontario (AHL)	55	15	13	28	12
Ryan Conmy	18	5-10	188	Right	Fort Walton Beach, Fla.	182nd overall (2023)	Sioux City (USHL)	60	33	29	62	14
Carl Grundstrom	25	6-0	195	Left	Umea, Swe.	Trade: Tor 1/28/19	Los Angeles	57	12	7	19	16
Hayden Hodgson	27	6-2	208	Right	Windsor, Ont.	Trade: Phi 6/6/23	Lehigh Valley (AHL)	44	3	5	8	83
Aatu Jamsen	21	6-1	154	Left	Lahti, Fin.	190th overall (2020)	Pelicans (Fin.)	43	14	18	32	12
Arthur Kaliyev	22	6-2	210	Left	Tashkent, Uzb.	33rd overall (2019)	Los Angeles	56	13	15	28	12
Adrian Kempe	27	6-2	200	Left	Kramfors, Swe.	29th overall (2014)	Los Angeles	82	41	26	67	55
Alex Laferriere	21	6-0	173	Right	Chatham, N.J.	83rd overall (2020)	Harvard (ECAC)	34	21	21	42	20
Kasper Simontaival	21	5-9	177	Right	Tampere, Fin.	66th overall (2020)	KalPa (Fin.)	49	10	14	24	18
Taylor Ward	25	6-2	207	Right	Kelowna, B.C.	Free Agent: signed 3/19/22	Ontario (AHL)	71	9	17	26	46
Jared Wright	20	6-1	178	Right	Burnsville, Minn.	169th overall (2022)	Denver (NCHC)	34	8	4	12	2
Koehn Ziemmer	18	6-0	202	Right	Mayerthorpe, Alta.	78th overall (2023)	Prince George (WHL)	68	41	48	89	43

MINNESOTA WILD

KIRILL KAPRIZOV

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BY **SARAH MCLELLAN**

MAKING THE PLAYOFFS hasn't been an issue for the Wild, but advancing past the first round? That's another story. Minnesota hasn't won a series since 2015, a drought that's persisted despite the team continuing to finish near the top of the Central Division. Last season, the third-seeded Wild were knocked out by second-place Dallas in six games.

This won't be a new challenge for much of the incoming lineup. With most of their roster under contract and nearly $15 million tied up in the Zach Parise and Ryan Suter buyouts, the Wild didn't make many additions. Actually, they had more departures than arrivals: almost all of last season's trade pickups are gone, and there was no room in the budget to re-sign longtime defenseman Matt Dumba. As the buyouts have eaten up more cap space, the Wild have remained competitive, but this season will be their toughest test to date.

>OFFENSE

Kirill Kaprizov is still the architect of the Wild's offense. The winger scored 40 goals and assisted on another 35, meaning he was involved in almost one-third of the team's total production despite missing a month with injury. But Kaprizov isn't the only catalyst. Matt Boldy followed up an impressive rookie debut with an even better encore, tallying 31 goals after signing a seven-year, $49-million contract extension. This surge happened without Kevin Fiala, with whom Boldy gelled in Year 1 before Fiala was traded to Los Angeles. Instead, Boldy formed a dynamic duo with Marcus Johansson after the Wild brought in the veteran ahead of the trade deadline,

2022-23 NUMBERS

RECORD
46-25-11 (.628)

OVERTIME
5-5

SHOOTOUT
7-6

OVERALL
11th

OFFENSE
2.91 GPG (23rd)

DEFENSE
2.67 GAA (6th)

POWER PLAY
21.4% (15th)

PENALTY KILL
82.0% (10th)

CORSI FOR/60
56.32 (19th)

CORSI AGAINST/60
57.53 (18th)

ICE TIME LEAD (F)
K. Kaprizov (21:07)

ICE TIME LEAD (D)
J. Brodin (22:52)

FAST FACTS

COACH
Dean Evason

GM
Bill Guerin

ARENA
Xcel Energy Center

CAPACITY
17,954

AHL AFFILIATE
Iowa Wild

ECHL AFFILIATE
Iowa Heartlanders

PLAYOFF RECORD
8-15 (since 2019)

KAPRIZOV: SERGEI BELSKI-USA TODAY SPORTS

JOEL ERIKSSON EK

and the Wild retained Johansson on a two-year, $4-million deal signed in early May.

>DEFENSE

The Wild weren't one of the NHL's highest-scoring teams last season, but they didn't have to be. Only five clubs gave up fewer goals than Minnesota, a stingy-style throwback to the franchise's early days as a defensive juggernaut. The defense corps should look mostly the same, with ice-time leaders Jared Spurgeon and Jonas Brodin returning alongside Jake Middleton, Jon Merrill and Alex Goligoski. What could bring a new dimension to the blueline is the emergence of Brock Faber. After leaving college to turn pro in April, Faber skated in just two regular-season games before the Wild included him in their lineup for the playoffs against Dallas. The rookie made an instant impact with his poise, mobility and hockey IQ.

>GOALTENDING

Filip Gustavsson's first season with the Wild was a slam-dunk success. Acquired to back up future Hall of Famer Marc-Andre Fleury, Gustavsson ended up playing himself into a much bigger role. He went 22-9-7, his .931 save percentage ranking second-best in the league, and he started five of the Wild's six playoff games. A similar split between Gustavsson and Fleury is likely to continue, with Fleury eight wins away from reaching 552 and passing Patrick Roy for second all-time.

>SPECIAL TEAMS

Although their penalty kill improved, going from the bottom third in the NHL to the top 10, the power play didn't have the same transformation. Still stuck in the middle of the pack, the unit struggled at the worst time, going 4-for-22 in the playoffs. In fairness, the Wild were without center Joel Eriksson Ek, their screen in front of the net, who scored more than half of his 23 goals on the power play. The Wild will have a new voice involved in the PP after hiring Jason King from Vancouver as an assistant coach on Dean Evason's staff.

>INTANGIBLES

Joining the leadership group is someone who's had plenty of playoff experience. The Wild acquired veteran winger Pat Maroon from Tampa Bay, a trade that filled Ryan Reaves' vacancy after Reaves signed with Toronto. Not only has Maroon competed in four of the past five Stanley Cup finals, but he won three in a row (with St. Louis in 2019 and with Tampa Bay in 2020 and '21). His pedigree could be a timely boost to the Wild's lineup.

>ROOKIES

Based on his playoff performance, Faber is ready for regular responsibility. The team could also have a rookie up front in Marco Rossi, if the center sticks in the NHL. Rossi made the roster out of camp last year but was returned to the minors to ignite his offense.

>X-FACTOR

This core has been intact for the recent playoff exits, and barring an in-season overhaul, those same players will continue to dictate the direction of the team. Maybe now is when the lessons they've learned from past defeats will set the Wild up for a different result.

>THE BRASS

Ever since GM Bill Guerin took over in 2019, the Wild have been constantly evolving. Just last season, Guerin brought in five players before the trade deadline without sacrificing the team's first- or second-round draft picks. But money remains tight, and that reality isn't going away any time soon.

CUP ODDS

35/1

DEPTH CHART | 2023-24

LEFT WING	CENTER	RIGHT WING
1. Kirill Kaprizov	1. Joel Eriksson Ek	1. Mats Zuccarello
2. Marcus Johansson	2. Ryan Hartman	2. Matt Boldy
3. Brandon Duhaime	3. Frederick Gaudreau	3. Marcus Foligno
4. Pat Maroon	4. Connor Dewar	4. Sammy Walker
5. Adam Beckman	5. Marco Rossi	5. Nic Petan

DEFENSE		GOALIE
1. Jared Spurgeon	6. Alex Goligoski	1. Filip Gustavsson
2. Jonas Brodin	7. Calen Addison	2. Marc-Andre Fleury
3. Jake Middleton	8. Dakota Mermis	3. Jesper Wallstedt
4. Brock Faber	9. Simon Johansson	INJURED
5. Jon Merrill	10. Carson Lambos	INDICATES NEW ARRIVAL

KEY DEPARTURES & UNSIGNED UFAs Matt Dumba, D; John Klingberg, D; Oskar Sundqvist, C; Gustav Nyquist, C; Mason Shaw, C; Ryan Reaves, RW; Sam Steel, C

ERIKSSON EK: JAMES CAREY LAUDER-USA TODAY SPORTS

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FUTURE WATCH

A WAVE OF TOP-END kids are available to the Wild this year and next, with Marco Rossi, Jesper Wallstedt and Brock Faber among those trying to become NHL regulars. At the 2023 draft, Minnesota went big right off the hop with centers Charlie Stramel and Rasmus Kumpulainen. Stramel has a world of potential but had a tough freshman season at Wisconsin. Second-rounder Riley Heidt is another skilled, young center as the Wild look to deepen the pivot position.

TOP 10 PROSPECTS

1. Jesper Wallstedt, G
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Iowa (AHL)
Mediocre record, but the mechanics and athleticism are obvious. He's just waiting his turn now.
Acquired 20th overall, 2021 **NHL** '25-26

2. Marco Rossi, C
Age 22 **2022-23 Team** Iowa (AHL)
Limited NHL ice time saw him land in AHL. Big talent and has nothing left to prove on the farm.
Acquired 9th overall, 2020 **NHL** '23-24

3. Brock Faber, D
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** Minnesota (Big Ten)
A 2022 Olympian, he's savvy, mobile and can help the attack. All-arounder will slot in nicely.
Acquired From LA, June 29, 2022 **NHL** '23-24

4. Charlie Stramel, C
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Wisconsin (Big Ten)
Dominates in the corners and battles his way to scoring areas. The end product is hit or miss.
Acquired 21st overall, 2023 **NHL** '27-28

5. Danila Yurov, RW
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Magnitogorsk (KHL)
Fierce competitor with top-six talent is stuck behind other pros in KHL, hindering development.
Acquired 24th overall, 2022 **NHL** '26-27

6. Liam Ohgren, LW
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Djurgarden (Swe.2)
Decent numbers in Sweden's second tier. Jumping to top league is a good test for power forward.
Acquired 19th overall, 2022 **NHL** '25-26

7. Carson Lambos, D
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Winnipeg (WHL)
Ice captain skates effortlessly and moves the puck quickly. He's best used in a shutdown role.
Acquired 26th overall, 2021 **NHL** '24-25

8. Adam Beckman, LW
Age 22 **2022-23 Team** Iowa (AHL)
Adding grit to his game and getting to tough areas led to solid AHL year. High-energy winger.
Acquired 75th overall, 2019 **NHL** '24-25

9. Rasmus Kumpulainen, C
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Pelicans Jr. (Fin.)
When motivated – which isn't every game – he's a standout two-way, middle-of-the-lineup pivot.
Acquired 53rd overall, 2023 **NHL** '26-27

10. Riley Heidt, C
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Prince George (WHL)
Can improve any power play thanks to his playmaking ability. He just needs more consistency.
Acquired 64th overall, 2023 **NHL** '27-28

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Wed, Jan 10	@ Dallas	7:30 PM
Fri, Jan 12	vs Philadelphia	8:00 PM
Sat, Jan 13	vs Arizona	8:00 PM
Mon, Jan 15	vs NY Islanders	5:00 PM
Thu, Jan 18	@ Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Fri, Jan 19	@ Florida	7:00 PM
Sun, Jan 21	@ Carolina	5:00 PM
Tue, Jan 23	vs Washington	8:00 PM
Thu, Jan 25	vs Nashville	8:00 PM
Sat, Jan 27	vs Anaheim	9:00 PM
Wed, Feb 7	@ Chicago	9:30 PM
Fri, Feb 9	vs Pittsburgh	8:00 PM
Mon, Feb 12	@ Vegas	10:00 PM
Wed, Feb 14	@ Arizona	9:30 PM
Sat, Feb 17	vs Buffalo	5:00 PM
Mon, Feb 19	vs Vancouver	2:00 PM
Tue, Feb 20	@ Winnipeg	8:00 PM
Fri, Feb 23	@ Edmonton	9:00 PM
Sat, Feb 24	@ Seattle	10:00 PM
Tue, Feb 27	vs Carolina	8:00 PM
Thu, Feb 29	@ Nashville	8:00 PM
Sat, Mar 2	@ St. Louis	8:00 PM
Sun, Mar 3	vs San Jose	7:00 PM
Thu, Mar 7	@ Arizona	9:00 PM
Fri, Mar 8	@ Colorado	9:00 PM
Sun, Mar 10	vs Nashville	3:30 PM
Tue, Mar 12	vs Arizona	8:00 PM
Thu, Mar 14	vs Anaheim	8:00 PM
Sat, Mar 16	@ St. Louis	8:00 PM
Tue, Mar 19	@ Anaheim	10:00 PM
Wed, Mar 20	@ Los Angeles	10:00 PM
Sat, Mar 23	vs St. Louis	3:00 PM
Thu, Mar 28	vs San Jose	8:00 PM
Sat, Mar 30	vs Vegas	3:00 PM
Tue, Apr 2	vs Ottawa	8:00 PM
Thu, Apr 4	vs Colorado	8:00 PM
Sat, Apr 6	vs Winnipeg	4:00 PM
Sun, Apr 7	@ Chicago	3:30 PM
Tue, Apr 9	@ Colorado	9:30 PM
Fri, Apr 12	@ Vegas	10:00 PM
Sat, Apr 13	@ San Jose	10:30 PM
Mon, Apr 15	@ Los Angeles	9:30 PM
Thu, Apr 18	vs Seattle	7:00 PM

**Global Series in Sweden*

WALLSTEDT: JEROME MIRON; BOLDY: SERGEI BELSKI-USA TODAY SPORTS

ORGANIZATIONAL ROSTER

GOALIES	AGE	HT.	WT.	CATCHES	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	W-L-OT	GAA	SP
Marc-Andre Fleury	38	6-2	185	Left	Sorel, Que.	Trade: Chi 3/21/22	Minnesota	46	24-16-4	2.85	.908
Filip Gustavsson	25	6-2	184	Left	Skelleftea, Swe.	Trade: Ott 7/12/22	Minnesota	39	22-9-7	2.10	.931
Hunter Jones	23	6-5	204	Left	Brantford, Ont.	59th overall (2019)	Iowa (ECHL)	38	11-17-9	3.07	.905
Zane McIntyre	31	6-2	206	Left	Grand Forks, N.D.	Free Agent: signed 1/4/22	Iowa (AHL)	34	16-12-5	2.87	.899
Jesper Wallstedt	20	6-3	214	Left	Vasteras, Swe.	20th overall (2021)	Iowa (AHL)	38	18-15-5	2.68	.908

DEFENSEMEN	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Calen Addison	23	5-11	173	Right	Brandon, Man.	Trade: Pit 2/10/20	Minnesota	62	3	26	29	22
Nate Benoit	20	6-0	168	Left	Concord, N.H.	182nd overall (2021)	Omaha/Waterloo (USHL)	58	6	19	25	81
Jonas Brodin	30	6-2	196	Left	Karlstad, Swe.	10th overall (2011)	Minnesota	60	3	11	14	30
Brock Faber	21	6-1	200	Right	Maple Grove, Minn.	Trade: LA 6/29/22	Minnesota (Big Ten)	38	4	23	27	12
Alex Goligoski	38	5-11	173	Left	Grand Rapids, Minn.	Free Agent: signed 7/28/21	Minnesota	46	2	4	6	16
Ryan Healey	19	6-0	172	Right	Chicago, Ill.	121st overall (2022)	Harvard (ECAC)	34	2	6	8	23
Daemon Hunt	21	6-1	201	Left	Brandon, Man.	65th overall (2020)	Iowa (AHL)	59	2	9	11	14
Simon Johansson	24	6-2	170	Right	Stockholm, Swe.	148th overall (2018)	Iowa (AHL)	64	2	12	14	26
Carson Lambos	20	6-1	197	Left	Winnipeg, Man.	26th overall (2021)	Winnipeg (WHL)	61	12	36	48	63
Kyle Masters	20	6-0	177	Right	Edmonton, Alta.	118th overall (2021)	Kamloops (WHL)	66	11	54	65	35
Dakota Mermis	29	6-0	195	Left	Alton, Ill.	Free Agent: signed 10/9/20	Iowa (AHL)	63	5	21	26	73
Jon Merrill	31	6-3	204	Left	Oklahoma City, Okla.	Free Agent: signed 7/29/21	Minnesota	73	2	10	12	38
Jake Middleton	27	6-3	219	Left	Wainwright, Alta.	Trade: SJ 3/21/22	Minnesota	79	3	12	15	72
Ryan O'Rourke	21	6-1	179	Left	Pickering, Ont.	39th overall (2020)	Iowa (AHL)	67	0	9	9	18
Kalem Parker	18	6-0	192	Right	Saskatoon, Sask.	181st overall (2023)	Victoria (WHL)	68	6	32	38	64
Jack Peart	20	5-11	186	Left	Grand Rapids, Minn.	54th overall (2021)	St. Cloud State (NCHC)	39	3	21	24	24
Aaron Pionk	20	6-1	170	Left	Hermantown, Minn.	149th overall (2023)	Waterloo (USHL)	60	12	24	36	51
David Spacek	20	6-0	174	Right	Columbus, Ohio	153rd overall (2022)	Sherbrooke (QMJHL)	58	13	44	57	30
Jared Spurgeon	33	5-9	166	Right	Edmonton, Alta.	Free Agent: signed 9/23/10	Minnesota	79	11	23	34	14
Marshall Warren	22	5-11	170	Left	Laurel Hollow, N.Y.	166th overall (2019)	Boston College (HE)	36	5	9	14	12

CENTERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Caedan Bankier	20	6-2	192	Left	White Rock, B.C.	86th overall (2021)	Kamloops (WHL)	57	37	48	85	23
Connor Dewar	24	5-10	183	Left	The Pas, Man.	92nd overall (2018)	Minnesota	81	6	12	18	50
Joel Eriksson Ek	26	6-3	207	Left	Karlstad, Swe.	20th overall (2015)	Minnesota	78	23	38	61	44
Steven Fogarty	30	6-3	204	Right	Chambersburg, Pa.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Iowa (AHL)	65	19	30	49	63
Frederick Gaudreau	30	6-0	184	Right	Bromont, Que.	Free Agent: signed 7/28/21	Minnesota	82	19	19	38	10
Matvey Guskov	22	6-2	182	Left	Nizhnekamsk, Rus.	149th overall (2019)	CSKA Moscow (KHL)	37	3	6	9	41
Hunter Haight	19	5-10	173	Right	Strathroy, Ont.	47th overall (2022)	Barrie/Saginaw (OHL)	62	21	39	60	14
Riley Heidt	18	5-10	178	Left	Saskatoon, Sask.	64th overall (2023)	Prince George (WHL)	68	25	72	97	36
Sam Hentges	24	6-0	175	Right	Fridley, Minn.	210th overall (2018)	Iowa (AHL)	19	1	2	3	6
Marat Khusnutdinov	21	5-11	176	Left	Moscow, Rus.	37th overall (2020)	St. Petersburg (KHL)	63	11	30	41	18
Rasmus Kumpulainen	18	6-2	191	Left	Lahti, Fin.	53rd overall (2023)	Pelicans Jr. (Fin.)	41	11	23	34	26
Vinni Lettieri	28	5-10	184	Right	Excelsior, Minn.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Providence (AHL)	48	23	26	49	34
Jacob Lucchini	28	6-0	180	Left	Trail, B.C.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Belleville (AHL)	61	19	34	53	6
Nic Petan	28	5-9	175	Left	Delta, B.C.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Iowa (AHL)	53	23	39	62	50
Servac Petrovsky	19	5-9	172	Left	Presov, Svk.	185th overall (2022)	Owen Sound (OHL)	62	24	31	55	14
Marco Rossi	22	5-9	182	Left	Feldkirch, Aut.	9th overall (2020)	Iowa (AHL)	53	16	35	51	46
Charlie Stramel	18	6-3	212	Right	St. Paul, Minn.	21st overall (2023)	Wisconsin (Big Ten)	33	5	7	12	59
Sammy Walker	24	5-10	180	Right	Edina, Minn.	Free Agent: signed 8/18/22	Iowa (AHL)	56	27	21	48	23

LEFT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Adam Beckman	22	6-2	182	Left	Saskatoon, Sask.	75th overall (2019)	Iowa (AHL)	53	24	12	36	18
Matt Boldy	22	6-2	201	Left	Milford, Mass.	12th overall (2019)	Minnesota	81	31	32	63	39
James Clark	19	6-0	179	Left	Edina, Minn.	213th overall (2023)	Green Bay (USHL)	62	19	28	47	27
Vladislav Firstov	22	6-1	181	Left	Yaroslavl, Rus.	42nd overall (2019)	Nizhny Novgorod (KHL)	47	11	15	26	42
Marcus Foligno	32	6-3	226	Left	Buffalo, N.Y.	Trade: Buf 6/30/17	Minnesota	65	7	14	21	97
Marcus Johansson	32	6-1	203	Left	Landskrona, Swe.	Trade: Wsh 2/28/23	Washington/Minnesota	80	19	27	46	8
Kirill Kaprizov	26	5-10	202	Left	Novokuznetsk, Rus.	135th overall (2015)	Minnesota	67	40	35	75	45
Rieger Lorenz	19	6-1	184	Left	Calgary, Alta.	56th overall (2022)	Denver (NCHC)	37	2	7	9	20
Pat Maroon	35	6-3	234	Left	St. Louis, Mo.	Trade: TB 7/2/23	Tampa Bay	80	5	9	14	150
Michael Milne	21	5-11	185	Left	Abbotsford, B.C.	89th overall (2022)	Iowa (AHL)	57	7	6	13	12
Liam Ohgren	19	6-0	187	Left	Stockholm, Swe.	19th overall (2022)	Djurgarden (Swe.2)	36	11	9	20	2

RIGHT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Maxim Cajkovic	22	5-11	185	Right	Bratislava, Svk.	Trade: TB 7/2/23	Orlando (ECHL)	41	10	17	27	53
Brandon Duhaime	26	6-2	200	Left	Coral Springs, Fla.	106th overall (2016)	Minnesota	51	9	1	10	42
Ryan Hartman	29	6-0	197	Right	Hilton Head Island, S.C.	Trade: Dal 6/24/19	Minnesota	59	15	22	37	90
Pavel Novak	21	5-9	170	Right	Tabor, Cze.	146th overall (2020)	Iowa (AHL)			DNP		
Nick Swaney	26	5-10	178	Right	Burnsville, Minn.	209th overall (2017)	Iowa (AHL)	48	18	12	30	14
Danila Yurov	19	6-1	178	Left	Chelyabinsk, Rus.	24th overall (2022)	Magnitogorsk (KHL)	59	6	6	12	8
Mats Zuccarello	36	5-8	181	Left	Oslo, Nor.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/19	Minnesota	78	22	45	67	26

MONTREAL CANADIENS

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BY **STU COWAN**

MORE THAN ANYTHING, THE Canadiens want to stay healthy this season. They set an NHL record last season with 751 man-games lost to injury, breaking the record of 720 man-games lost they'd set the previous season. In June, GM Kent Hughes fired Graham Rynbend, who had been the head athletic therapist for 19 years, replacing him with Jim Ramsay, who'd been with the New York Rangers for nearly three decades. Donald Balmforth was also fired after two seasons as head physiotherapist, replaced by Maxime Gauthier.

Despite all the injuries, Montreal still made a 13-point improvement in the standings after finishing last overall in 2021-22. This will be the second full season of a rebuild, and another 13-point improvement in the standings (or more) wouldn't be a surprise. But the Habs are still at least a year away from being a playoff team.

>OFFENSE

Offense has been a problem for the Canadiens for many years. Nick Suzuki led the team in scoring with 66 points, which only tied him for 70th in the NHL. Cole Caufield was on pace to score 46 goals, with 26 goals (and 36 points) in 46 games, before a season-ending shoulder injury that required surgery. The Habs haven't had a 40-goal scorer since Vincent Damphousse in 1993-94, and they haven't had a player finish in the top 10 in NHL scoring since Mats Naslund was eighth in 1985-86 with 110 points. Defenseman Mike Matheson's 34 points set a career high despite the 29-year-old being limited to 48 games because of injuries. If he can stay healthy, he'll give the offense a boost.

2022-23 NUMBERS

RECORD
31-45-6 (.415)

OVERTIME
5-4

SHOOTOUT
5-2

OVERALL
28th

OFFENSE
2.77 GPG (26th)

DEFENSE
3.72 GAA (29th)

POWER PLAY
16.1% (29th)

PENALTY KILL
72.7% (29th)

CORSI FOR/60
51.05 (26th)

CORSI AGAINST/60
61.13 (28th)

ICE TIME LEAD (F)
N. Suzuki (21:06)

ICE TIME LEAD (D)
M. Matheson (24:27)

FAST FACTS

COACH
Martin St-Louis

GM
Kent Hughes

ARENA
Bell Centre

CAPACITY
21,105

AHL AFFILIATE
Laval Rocket

ECHL AFFILIATE
Trois-Rivieres Lions

PLAYOFF RECORD
18-14 (since 2019)

DAVID KIROUAC-USA TODAY SPORTS

SUZUKI: DAVID KIROUAC-USA TODAY SPORTS

>DEFENSE

The Canadiens had five rookie defensemen who played at least 39 games last season – Johnathan Kovacevic, Jordan Harris, Arber Xhekaj, Kaiden Guhle and Justin Barron. They traded defenseman Joel Edmundson to Washington in the summer, meaning Matheson, David Savard and Jeff Petry (who's likely to be dealt) are the only veterans left, along with Chris Wideman, who isn't expected to play much. Guhle was limited to 44 games because of injuries, but he showed he will be a top-pairing 'D' for many years to come. The coaching staff will continue to let the youngsters make mistakes and learn from them, which will help their long-term development. Montreal also used the No. 5 overall pick in this year's draft to select supremely steady defender David Reinbacher.

>GOALTENDING

Sam Montembeault probably did enough with Montreal – and backstopping Canada to gold at the World Championship – to earn the No. 1 job, with Jake Allen as his backup. However, the games will likely end up being split pretty evenly if they both stay healthy. Former Penguin Casey DeSmith will also see action. None of the three is a legitimate future No. 1 goalie, which is why Montreal picked three netminders in the draft.

>SPECIAL TEAMS

Special teams have been a problem for the Canadiens for a long time. Last season, they ranked 29th on the power play (16.1 percent) and 29th on the penalty kill (72.7 percent). Matheson and Caufield will help the power play if they can stay healthy for a full season. Suzuki led the team in power-play points with 17, which tied him for 103rd in the NHL. Suzuki and Caufield tied for the team lead in power-play goals with seven, which tied them for 74th in the league. The Canadiens only scored 38 power-play goals last season and gave up 75 goals while shorthanded.

>INTANGIBLES

Management is counting on coach Martin St-Louis to get the most out of his young players as the rebuild continues. Patience is a virtue, and St-Louis won't rush things. He wants his players to play with offensive freedom and not be afraid to make mistakes while he implements an up-tempo style. Veteran center Sean Monahan was brought back to maintain a key leadership role.

CUP ODDS

90/1

>ROOKIES

After using 14 rookies last year – including 2022 No. 1 overall draft pick Juraj Slafkovsky – it will be difficult for another freshman to break into the lineup this season. A couple of players who could push for a spot at training camp are defenseman Logan Mailloux and center Owen Beck, but there likely won't be any job openings.

>X-FACTOR

If Caufield can stay healthy and score 40-plus goals, it will certainly give the team a boost. Rafael Harvey-Pinard had 14 goals in 34 games after getting called up from AHL Laval, a pace good for 34 goals over an 82-game season. Alex Newhook, acquired from Colorado, should also give the offense a much-needed spark.

>THE BRASS

The management team, led by executive vice-president of hockey operations Jeff Gorton, and ownership are on the same page and willing to be patient as the rebuild continues. They won't jeopardize the future for a quick fix. They're hoping the team will contend for a playoff spot, but they will let things play out.

DEPTH CHART | 2023-24

LEFT WING	CENTER	RIGHT WING
1. Cole Caufield	1. Nick Suzuki	1. Kirby Dach
2. Alex Newhook	2. Christian Dvorak	2. Josh Anderson
3. Juraj Slafkovsky	3. Sean Monahan	3. Brendan Gallagher
4. Rafael Harvey-Pinard	4. Jake Evans	4. Joel Armia
5. Michael Pezzetta	5. Lias Andersson	5. Jesse Ylonen

DEFENSE		GOALIE
1. Mike Matheson	6. Arber Xhekaj	1. Sam Montembeault
2. David Savard	7. Johnathan Kovacevic	2. Jake Allen
3. Kaiden Guhle	8. Justin Barron	3. Casey DeSmith
4. Jeff Petry	9. Chris Wideman	INJURED
5. Jordan Harris	10. Brady Keeper	INDICATES NEW ARRIVAL

KEY DEPARTURES & UNSIGNED UFAs Joel Edmundson, D; Jonathan Drouin, LW; Denis Gurianov, RW; Chris Tierney, C; Paul Byron, LW; Alex Belzile, RW; Mike Hoffman, LW; Rem Pitlick, C

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FUTURE WATCH

THE CANADIENS HAD A plethora of youth in the lineup last season, including the majority of their blueline and 2022 No. 1 overall pick Juraj Slafkovsky, whose campaign was shut down early due to injury. That 2022 class continues to excite thanks to the development of D-man Lane Hutson and center Owen Beck. Austrian rearguard David Reinbacher was Montreal's top pick in 2023 after a great year in Switzerland. He's got size and mobility. The present may hurt, but the future looks bright.

TOP 10 PROSPECTS

1. David Reinbacher, D
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Kloten (Sui.)
Surprise pick, perhaps, but he doesn't have a single hole in his game. Rock-steady blueliner.
Acquired 5th overall, 2023 **NHL** '26-27

2. Filip Mesar, RW
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Kitchener (OHL)
A pass-first winger who darts around defenders and either finds teammates or finishes craftily.
Acquired 26th overall, 2022 **NHL** '25-26

3. Lane Hutson, D
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Boston U. (HE)
Not the biggest or baddest but often the smartest player on the ice. Outstanding playmaker.
Acquired 62nd overall, 2022 **NHL** '25-26

4. Owen Beck, C
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Peterborough (OHL)
Nearly made Habs out of camp because of two-way acumen. Mistakes in his game are rare.
Acquired 33rd overall, 2022 **NHL** '24-25

5. Sean Farrell, C
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** Harvard (ECAC)
Hobey Baker finalist had dominant NCAA campaign, made NHL debut, then jetted to worlds.
Acquired 124th overall, 2020 **NHL** '25-26

6. Logan Mailloux, D
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** London (OHL)
Power-play producer and deft passer. He likes to throw the body and will step up into hits.
Acquired 31st overall, 2021 **NHL** '24-25

7. Joshua Roy, RW
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Sherbrooke (QMJHL)
His growth since draft day has been tremendous. Protects the puck well and has a great shot.
Acquired 150th overall, 2021 **NHL** '25-26

8. Riley Kidney, C
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Gatineau (QMJHL)
The big point total grabs headlines, but his sound 200-foot game is why coaches love his play.
Acquired 63rd overall, 2021 **NHL** '26-27

9. Mattias Norlinder, D
Age 23 **2022-23 Team** Laval (AHL)
He uses angles and his stick to strip pucks and send plays the other way. Lacks some elusiveness.
Acquired 64th overall, 2019 **NHL** '24-25

10. Jacob Fowler, G
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Youngstown (USHL)
He's headed to NCAA after strong USHL season. Quick in the crease and reads the play well.
Acquired 69th overall, 2023 **NHL** '28-29

SCHEDULE | 2023-24

Wed, Oct 11	@ Toronto	7:00 PM
Sat, Oct 14	vs Chicago	7:00 PM
Tue, Oct 17	vs Minnesota	7:00 PM
Sat, Oct 21	vs Washington	7:00 PM
Mon, Oct 23	@ Buffalo	7:00 PM
Tue, Oct 24	vs New Jersey	7:15 PM
Thu, Oct 26	vs Columbus	7:00 PM
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Sat, Jan 27	@ Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
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Sat, Feb 10	vs Dallas	1:00 PM
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REINBACHER: TOM HILLER; DACH: DAVID KIROUAC-USA TODAY SPORTS

ORGANIZATIONAL ROSTER

GOALIES	AGE	HT.	WT.	CATCHES	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	W-L-OT	GAA	SP
Jake Allen	33	6-2	195	Left	Fredericton, N.B.	Trade: StL 9/2/20	Montreal	42	15-24-3	3.55	.891
Emmett Croteau	19	6-3	195	Left	Bonnyville, Alta.	162nd overall (2022)	Waterloo (USHL)	28	18-10-0	2.46	.917
Casey DeSmith	32	6-0	181	Left	Rochester, N.H.	Trade: Pit 8/6/23	Pittsburgh	38	15-16-4	3.17	.905
Jakub Dobes	22	6-4	200	Left	Ostrava, Cze.	136th overall (2020)	Ohio State (Big Ten)	40	21-16-3	2.31	.918
Jacob Fowler	18	6-1	223	Left	Melbourne, Fla.	69th overall (2023)	Youngstown (USHL)	40	27-9-3	2.28	.921
Quentin Miller	18	6-3	187	Left	Montreal, Que.	128th overall (2023)	Quebec (QMJHL)	20	14-4-0	2.11	.911
Sam Montembeault	26	6-3	214	Left	Becancour, Que.	Waivers: Fla 10/2/21	Montreal	40	16-19-3	3.42	.901
Carey Price	36	6-3	217	Left	Anahim Lake, B.C.	5th overall (2005)	Montreal	DNP			
Cayden Primeau	24	6-2	199	Left	Farmington Hills, Mich.	199th overall (2017)	Laval (AHL)	41	19-15-6	3.04	.909
Yevgeni Volokhin	18	6-0	159	Left	Khanty-Mansiysk, Rus.	144th overall (2023)	Khanty-Mansiysk Jr. (Rus.)	31	20-6-3	2.12	.927
Joe Vrbetic	20	6-6	194	Left	Hamilton, Ont.	214th overall (2021)	Trois-Rivieres (ECHL)	28	14-12-0	3.30	.896

DEFENSEMEN	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Justin Barron	21	6-2	201	Right	Halifax, N.S.	Trade: Col 3/21/22	Montreal	39	4	11	15	20
Nicolas Beaudin	23	5-11	168	Left	Chateauguay, Que.	Trade: Chi 10/26/22	Rockford/Laval (AHL)	42	2	24	26	43
Adam Engstrom	19	6-2	185	Left	Jarna, Swe.	92nd overall (2022)	Rogle (Swe.)	43	6	10	16	14
Kaiden Guhle	21	6-2	205	Left	Edmonton, Alta.	16th overall (2020)	Montreal	44	4	14	18	27
Jordan Harris	23	5-11	189	Left	Haverhill, Mass.	71st overall (2018)	Montreal	65	4	13	17	26
Lane Hutson	19	5-9	158	Left	Holland, Mich.	62nd overall (2022)	Boston University (HE)	39	15	33	48	26
Brady Keeper	27	6-2	197	Right	Cross Lake, Man.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Abbotsford (AHL)	35	1	5	6	35
Bogdan Konyushkov	20	5-11	176	Right	Penza, Rus.	110th overall (2023)	Nizhny Novgorod (KHL)	64	2	23	25	14
Dmitri Kostenko	21	6-1	187	Right	Togliatti, Rus.	87th overall (2021)	Kunlun (KHL)	52	2	2	4	20
Johnathan Kovacevic	26	6-4	208	Right	Hamilton, Ont.	Waivers: Wpg 10/8/22	Montreal	77	3	12	15	39
Logan Mailloux	20	6-3	210	Right	Belle River, Ont.	31st overall (2021)	London (OHL)	59	25	28	53	77
Mike Matheson	29	6-2	193	Left	Pointe-Claire, Que	Trade: Pit 7/16/22	Montreal	48	8	26	34	33
Luke Mittelstadt	20	5-11	178	Left	Eden Prairie, Minn.	197th overall (2023)	Minnesota (Big Ten)	38	5	16	21	6
Mattias Norlinder	23	6-1	195	Left	Kramfors, Swe.	64th overall (2019)	Laval (AHL)	67	2	17	19	20
Petteri Nurmi	21	6-0	187	Left	Helsinki, Fin.	194th overall (2022)	HPK (Fin.)	48	1	14	15	28
Jeff Petry	35	6-3	209	Right	Ann Arbor, Mich.	Trade: Pit 8/6/23	Pittsburgh	61	5	26	31	24
David Reinbacher	18	6-2	194	Right	Hohenems, Aut.	5th overall (2023)	Kloten (Sui.)	46	3	19	22	26
David Savard	32	6-1	235	Right	St-Hyacinthe, Que.	Free Agent: signed 7/28/21	Montreal	62	3	17	20	40
Daniil Sobolev	20	6-0	208	Right	St. Petersburg, Rus.	142nd overall (2021)	Windsor (OHL)	48	1	8	9	56
Jayden Struble	22	6-0	201	Left	Cumberland, R.I.	46th overall (2019)	Northeastern (HE)	31	1	11	12	56
Miguel Tourigny	21	5-8	179	Right	Victoriaville, Que.	216th overall (2022)	Trencin (Svk.)	39	5	19	24	37
William Trudeau	20	5-11	198	Left	Varennes, Que.	113th overall (2021)	Laval (AHL)	60	7	20	27	59
Chris Wideman	33	5-10	181	Right	St. Louis, Mo.	Free Agent: signed 7/28/21	Montreal	46	0	6	6	81
Arber Xhekaj	22	6-4	238	Left	Hamilton, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 10/4/21	Montreal	51	5	8	13	101

CENTERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Lias Andersson	24	6-1	185	Left	Smogen, Swe.	Free Agent: signed 7/2/23	Ontario (AHL)	67	31	28	59	38
Owen Beck	19	6-0	190	Right	Peterborough, Ont.	33rd overall (2022)	Mississauga/Peterborough (OHL)	60	24	42	66	35
Blake Biondi	21	6-0	191	Right	Duluth, Minn.	109th overall (2020)	Minn.-Duluth (NCHC)	17	3	3	6	4
Lucas Condotta	26	6-1	223	Left	Georgetown, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 3/31/22	Laval (AHL)	72	16	15	31	61
Kirby Dach	22	6-4	212	Right	Fort Saskatchewan, Alta.	Trade: Chi 7/7/22	Montreal	58	14	24	38	43
Jared Davidson	21	5-11	180	Left	Edmonton, Alta.	130th overall (2022)	Seattle (WHL)	60	38	44	82	46
Christian Dvorak	27	6-1	193	Left	Palos, Ill.	Trade: Ari 9/4/21	Montreal	64	10	18	28	6
Filip Eriksson	18	5-11	179	Left	Ljungby, Swe.	165th overall (2023)	Vaxjo Jr. (Swe.)	11	5	5	10	4
Jake Evans	27	6-0	186	Right	Toronto, Ont.	207th overall (2014)	Montreal	54	2	17	19	28
Sean Farrell	21	5-9	175	Left	Milford, Mass.	124th overall (2020)	Harvard (ECAC)	34	20	33	53	12
Oliver Kapanen	20	6-0	166	Right	Timra, Swe.	64th overall (2021)	KalPa (Fin.)	55	12	15	27	28
Riley Kidney	20	5-11	176	Left	Halifax, N.S.	63rd overall (2021)	Acadie-Bathurst/Gatineau (QMJHL)	60	28	82	110	48
Philippe Maillet	30	5-10	174	Left	Lachenaie, Que.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Magnitogorsk (KHL)	66	22	31	53	18
Sean Monahan	28	6-2	196	Left	Brampton, Ont.	Trade: Cgy 8/18/22	Montreal	25	6	11	17	16
Jan Mysak	21	5-11	182	Left	Litvinov, Cze.	48th overall (2020)	Laval (AHL)	40	5	4	9	8
Alex Newhook	22	5-10	190	Left	St. John's, Nfld.	Trade: Col 6/27/23	Colorado	82	14	16	30	22
Vinzenz Rohrer	19	5-10	160	Right	Rankweil, Aut.	75th overall (2022)	Ottawa (OHL)	54	19	30	49	18
Xavier Simoneau	22	5-6	183	Left	Gatineau, Que.	191st overall (2021)	Laval (AHL)	62	6	32	38	81
Ty Smilanic	21	6-1	175	Left	Elizabeth, Colo.	Trade: Fla 3/16/22	Wisconsin (Big Ten)	14	1	1	2	7
Jack Smith	21	5-11	182	Left	St. Cloud, Minn.	102nd overall (2020)	Minn.-Duluth (NCHC)	24	0	5	5	10
Mitchell Stephens	26	5-11	197	Right	Peterborough, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Laval (AHL)	68	20	21	41	49
Nick Suzuki	24	5-11	208	Right	London, Ont.	Trade: Veg 9/10/18	Montreal	82	26	40	66	33

LEFT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Cedrick Guindon	19	5-10	172	Left	Rockland, Ont.	127th overall (2022)	Owen Sound (OHL)	68	22	47	69	14
Sam Harris	19	5-11	180	Left	Carlsbad, Calif.	133rd overall (2023)	Sioux Falls (USHL)	56	30	26	56	63
Rafael Harvey-Pinard	24	5-9	181	Left	Saguenay, Que.	201st overall (2019)	Laval (AHL)	40	16	15	31	20
Emil Heineman	21	6-0	194	Left	Leksand, Swe.	Trade: Cgy 2/14/22	Leksand (Swe.)	35	8	7	15	10
Michael Pezzetta	25	6-1	210	Left	Toronto, Ont.	160th overall (2016)	Montreal	63	7	8	15	77
Rhett Pitlick	22	5-9	160	Left	Coral Springs, Fla.	131st overall (2019)	Minnesota (Big Ten)	40	11	14	25	18
Juraj Slafkovsky	19	6-3	238	Left	Kosice, Svk.	1st overall (2022)	Montreal	39	4	6	10	33
Luke Tuch	21	6-3	209	Left	Syracuse, N.Y.	47th overall (2020)	Boston University (HE)	40	9	11	20	21
Florian Xhekaj	19	6-3	183	Left	Hamilton, Ont.	101st overall (2023)	Hamilton (OHL)	68	13	12	25	76

RIGHT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Josh Anderson	29	6-3	218	Right	Burlington, Ont.	Trade: Clb 10/6/20	Montreal	69	21	11	32	72
Joel Armia	30	6-3	216	Right	Pori, Fin.	Trade: Wpg 6/30/18	Montreal	43	7	7	14	22
Cole Caufield	22	5-7	174	Right	Mosinee, Wis.	15th overall (2019)	Montreal	46	26	10	36	2
Brendan Gallagher	31	5-9	186	Right	Edmonton, Alta.	147th overall (2010)	Montreal	37	8	6	14	45
Alexander Gordin	22	6-1	194	Left	St. Petersburg, Rus.	171st overall (2020)	Rostov (Rus.2)	36	8	4	12	6
Nathan Legare	22	6-0	205	Right	Montreal, Que.	Trade: Pit 8/6/23	WB/Scranton (AHL)	68	8	11	19	76
Filip Mesar	19	5-9	179	Right	Kezmarok, Svk.	26th overall (2022)	Kitchener (OHL)	52	17	34	51	8
Joshua Roy	20	6-0	190	Left	St-Georges-De-Beauce, Que.	150th overall (2021)	Sherbrooke (QMJHL)	55	46	53	99	14
Jesse Ylonen	23	6-1	188	Right	Scottsdale, Ariz.	35th overall (2018)	Laval (AHL)	39	11	21	32	16

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BY **DAVID BOCLAIR**

CHANGE – SIGNIFICANT change – has finally come to Nashville. Barry Trotz officially became the second GM in franchise history on July 1, and he quickly made it clear that he sees things differently than his predecessor, David Poile. Coach John Hynes was fired and replaced by Andrew Brunette. Ryan Johansen was traded to Colorado, and Matt Duchene was bought out.

In the short term, those moves freed up salary-cap space that Trotz used to sign players he views as leaders and proven winners, namely center Ryan O'Reilly and defenseman Luke Schenn. In the long term, those moves opened up ice time for younger players who performed well down the stretch last season when injuries decimated the Predators' core. There is no question things will be different in 2023-24. What is not clear is whether things will be immediately better after Nashville missed the post-season for the first time in nine years.

>OFFENSE

No Nashville forward scored more goals over the past two seasons than Duchene, who had 65, including a franchise-record 43 in 2021-22. Duchene, Johansen and Mikael Granlund (dealt at the trade deadline) were three of the team's top forwards in terms of points per game over that same span. Now, Cody Glass, 24, Tommy Novak, 26, Juuso Parssinen, 22, and Luke Evangelista, 21, must assume larger roles; each player showed promise last season. Glass finally looks like the prospect who was drafted sixth overall by Vegas in 2017. Roman Josi, the only NHL D-man with more than 300 points over the past five seasons, will continue to play a big part in the offense.

2022-23 NUMBERS

RECORD
42-32-8 (.561)

OVERTIME
7-6

SHOOTOUT
6-2

OVERALL
18th

OFFENSE
2.72 GPG (28th)

DEFENSE
2.88 GAA (12th)

POWER PLAY
17.6% (27th)

PENALTY KILL
82.6% (6th)

CORSI FOR/60
55.32 (22nd)

CORSI AGAINST/60
61.36 (30th)

ICE TIME LEAD (F)
M. Duchene (18:19)

ICE TIME LEAD (D)
R. Josi (25:10)

FAST FACTS

COACH
Andrew Brunette

GM
Barry Trotz

ARENA
Bridgestone Arena

CAPACITY
17,159

AHL AFFILIATE
Milwaukee Admirals

ECHL AFFILIATE
Atlanta Gladiators

PLAYOFF RECORD
5-15 (since 2019)

SAROS: DAN HAMILTON-USA TODAY SPORTS

NASHVILLE PREDATORS

ROMAN JOSI

>DEFENSE

Trotz has made no secret about the fact he wants to get bigger and more physical on the back end. Schenn, at 6-foot-2 and 225 pounds, was the first step in that process. He immediately became one of Nashville's most sizable blueliners, and his style of play will serve as the model for younger players, including two of the Predators' top picks in this year's draft, Tanner Molendyk (first round) and Dylan MacKinnon (third round). Molendyk already has signed his entry-level contract and could crack the lineup with a good training camp. Veteran Ryan McDonagh is likely to play a more prominent role while the other holdovers – Tyson Barrie, Dante Fabbro and Alexandre Carrier – jockey for ice time.

>GOALTENDING

Juuse Saros has led the league in games played in each of the past two seasons, and no netminder faced more shots in 2022-23. Questions arose about Saros' durability when the 5-foot-11, 180-pounder faded down the stretch the previous season, and virtually all of his advanced stats trended in the wrong direction during the most recent campaign. In other words, a little less might mean more for the 2021-22 Vezina Trophy finalist, which puts the onus on backup Kevin Lankinen, who was re-signed in March.

>SPECIAL TEAMS

All eyes will be on Brunette, who will try to resurrect a power play that converted just 17.6 percent of the time last season (27th in the NHL) and has finished 23rd or worse four times in the past five years. Brunette retained two assistant coaches, but Dan Lambert, who directed the power play for the past four years, was fired. Brunette will lead the PP unit himself. The hope is he can produce the type of success he had as an interim coach with Florida in 2021-22. Saros did his part – and then some – to make the penalty kill effective last year.

>INTANGIBLES

Trotz didn't sign O'Reilly, 32, and Schenn, 33, because he believes their best hockey is ahead of them. He did so because they have won Stanley Cups and have attributes common to winning teams. Nashville is a franchise that has made the post-season in 15 of the past 19 years but has advanced beyond the second round just once. The hope is players who have been there can show the way.

CUP ODDS

60/1

>ROOKIES

No Nashville prospect has generated as much excitement in recent years as goaltender Yaroslav Askarov, the 11th-overall pick in 2020. He made one not-exactly-memorable NHL appearance last season and is not needed in Nashville at present. That does not mean management won't look for an opportunity to get him more big-league seasoning.

>X-FACTOR

Injuries limited Filip Forsberg, the franchise's all-time leader in goals, to 50 games last season. How healthy he is and how well he adapts to new linemates after years of playing primarily with some combination of Johansen, Duchene and Granlund will be critical to the Predators' ability to put points on the board.

>THE BRASS

Nashville is one of the NHL's younger franchises, having entered the league as an expansion team in 1998. However, the combination of Trotz as GM and Brunette as coach is a nod to the team's history. Trotz was Nashville's first coach and led the team for 15 seasons, while Brunette scored the first goal in franchise history.

DEPTH CHART | 2023-24

LEFT WING	CENTER	RIGHT WING
1. Filip Forsberg	1. Ryan O'Reilly	1. Gustav Nyquist
2. Yakov Trenin	2. Tommy Novak	2. Luke Evangelista
3. Juuso Parssinen	3. Cody Glass	3. Philip Tomasino
4. Kiefer Sherwood	4. Colton Sissons	4. Denis Gurianov
5. Cole Smith	5. Mark Jankowski	5. Joakim Kemell

DEFENSE		GOALIE
1. Roman Josi	6. Dante Fabbro	1. Juuse Saros
2. Ryan McDonagh	7. Jeremy Lauzon	2. Kevin Lankinen
3. Tyson Barrie	8. Spencer Stastney	3. Yaroslav Askarov
4. Alexandre Carrier	9. Kevin Gravel	INJURED
5. Luke Schenn	10. Jordan Gross	INDICATES NEW ARRIVAL

KEY DEPARTURES & UNSIGNED UFAs Matt Duchene, C; Ryan Johansen, C; Mark Borowiecki, D; Cal Foote, D; Zach Sanford, LW

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FUTURE WATCH

THE DRAFT HAS BEEN good for Nashville under director of amateur scouting Jeff Kealty (who's also the assistant GM), with enticing names such as Yaroslav Askarov, Joakim Kemell and Zachary L'Heureux in the pipeline. The Preds hosted the draft in 2023 and went big with 11 picks, including scoring ace Matthew Wood and offensive D-man Tanner Molendyk in the first round. Edgy left winger Kalan Lind could become a fan fave in a few years – maybe on a pain line with L'Heureux.

TOP 10 PROSPECTS

1. Yaroslav Askarov, G
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** Milwaukee (AHL)
Big personality and bigger potential. Stuck behind Saros, but that means time to marinate.
Acquired 11th overall, 2020 **NHL** '24-25

2. Joakim Kemell, RW
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** JYP (Fin.)
Moved to AHL after Finnish season and looked like a burgeoning star with 23 points in 28 games.
Acquired 17th overall, 2022 **NHL** '23-24

3. Matthew Wood, RW
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Connecticut (HE)
Big, rangy and skilled, but unrefined, especially his skating. He'll benefit from the NCAA game.
Acquired 15th overall, 2023 **NHL** '25-26

4. Luke Evangelista, RW
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** Milwaukee (AHL)
Solid AHL rookie year earned him a long NHL look. Dynamic playmaker will land in middle six.
Acquired 42nd overall, 2020 **NHL** '23-24

5. Reid Schaefer, LW
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Seattle (WHL)
Big goal-scoring winger isn't afraid to mix it up and throw his weight around. Won WHL title.
Acquired From Edm, Feb. 28, 2023 **NHL** '25-26

6. Tanner Molendyk, D
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Saskatoon (WHL)
He'll get caught looking to create offense, but he has the wheels to often mitigate the damage.
Acquired 24th overall, 2023 **NHL** '26-27

7. Fedor Svechkov, C
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Spartak Moscow (KHL)
Did OK as KHL rookie but has to grow into bigger role. Looks to pass before thinking shot.
Acquired 19th overall, 2021 **NHL** '25-26

8. Zachary L'Heureux, LW
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Halifax (QMJHL)
Plays on the edge and sometimes goes over. Add a dash of skill and he's got super-pest potential.
Acquired 27th overall, 2021 **NHL** '24-25

9. Kalan Lind, LW
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Red Deer (WHL)
Thriving on confrontation and driving opponents batty makes him beloved – if he's on your team.
Acquired 46th overall, 2023 **NHL** '26-27

10. Ryan Ufko, D
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** UMass (HE)
Great WJC showing. He never overcomplicates the play, a good quality for a blueliner.
Acquired 115th overall, 2021 **NHL** '26-27

SCHEDULE | 2023-24

Tue, Oct 10	@ Tampa Bay	5:30 PM	Fri, Jan 12	@ Dallas	8:00 PM
Thu, Oct 12	vs Seattle	8:00 PM	Sat, Jan 13	vs NY Islanders	8:00 PM
Sat, Oct 14	@ Boston	7:00 PM	Mon, Jan 15	@ Vegas	10:00 PM
Tue, Oct 17	vs Edmonton	8:00 PM	Thu, Jan 18	@ Los Angeles	9:30 PM
Thu, Oct 19	@ NY Rangers	7:00 PM	Sat, Jan 20	@ Arizona	3:00 PM
Sat, Oct 21	vs San Jose	8:00 PM	Mon, Jan 22	vs Florida	8:00 PM
Tue, Oct 24	vs Vancouver	9:15 PM	Thu, Jan 25	@ Minnesota	8:00 PM
Sat, Oct 28	vs Toronto	7:00 PM	Sat, Jan 27	@ Edmonton	4:00 PM
Tue, Oct 31	@ Vancouver	10:30 PM	Mon, Jan 29	@ Ottawa	7:00 PM
Thu, Nov 2	@ Seattle	10:00 PM	Wed, Jan 31	vs Los Angeles	7:30 PM
Sat, Nov 4	@ Edmonton	3:00 PM	Sat, Feb 10	vs Arizona	8:00 PM
Tue, Nov 7	@ Calgary	9:00 PM	Tue, Feb 13	vs New Jersey	8:00 PM
Thu, Nov 9	@ Winnipeg	8:00 PM	Thu, Feb 15	vs Dallas	9:00 PM
Sat, Nov 11	vs Arizona	8:00 PM	Sat, Feb 17	@ St. Louis	5:00 PM
Tue, Nov 14	vs Anaheim	8:00 PM	Tue, Feb 20	@ Vegas	10:00 PM
Sat, Nov 18	vs Chicago	8:00 PM	Thu, Feb 22	@ Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Mon, Nov 20	vs Colorado	8:00 PM	Sat, Feb 24	@ San Jose	10:00 PM
Wed, Nov 22	vs Calgary	9:00 PM	Sun, Feb 25	@ Anaheim	8:00 PM
Fri, Nov 24	@ St. Louis	3:00 PM	Tue, Feb 27	vs Ottawa	8:00 PM
Sun, Nov 26	vs Winnipeg	8:00 PM	Thu, Feb 29	vs Minnesota	8:00 PM
Tue, Nov 28	vs Pittsburgh	8:00 PM	Sat, Mar 2	vs Colorado	8:00 PM
Thu, Nov 30	vs Minnesota	8:00 PM	Tue, Mar 5	vs Montreal	8:00 PM
Sat, Dec 2	vs NY Rangers	4:00 PM	Thu, Mar 7	vs Buffalo	8:00 PM
Sun, Dec 3	@ Buffalo	7:00 PM	Sat, Mar 9	@ Columbus	12:30 PM
Tue, Dec 5	@ Chicago	8:30 PM	Sun, Mar 10	@ Minnesota	3:30 PM
Thu, Dec 7	vs Tampa Bay	8:00 PM	Wed, Mar 13	@ Winnipeg	7:30 PM
Sat, Dec 9	@ Toronto	7:00 PM	Sat, Mar 16	@ Seattle	10:00 PM
Sun, Dec 10	@ Montreal	7:00 PM	Tue, Mar 19	vs San Jose	8:00 PM
Tue, Dec 12	vs Philadelphia	8:00 PM	Thu, Mar 21	@ Florida	7:00 PM
Fri, Dec 15	@ Carolina	7:00 PM	Sat, Mar 23	vs Detroit	5:00 PM
Sat, Dec 16	vs Washington	8:00 PM	Tue, Mar 26	vs Vegas	8:00 PM
Tue, Dec 19	vs Vancouver	8:00 PM	Thu, Mar 28	@ Arizona	10:00 PM
Thu, Dec 21	@ Philadelphia	7:00 PM	Sat, Mar 30	@ Colorado	6:00 PM
Sat, Dec 23	vs Dallas	3:00 PM	Tue, Apr 2	vs Boston	8:00 PM
Wed, Dec 27	vs Carolina	8:00 PM	Thu, Apr 4	vs St. Louis	8:00 PM
Fri, Dec 29	@ Detroit	7:00 PM	Sat, Apr 6	@ NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Sat, Dec 30	@ Washington	7:00 PM	Sun, Apr 7	@ New Jersey	7:00 PM
Tue, Jan 2	vs Chicago	8:00 PM	Tue, Apr 9	vs Winnipeg	8:00 PM
Thu, Jan 4	vs Calgary	8:00 PM	Fri, Apr 12	@ Chicago	8:30 PM
Sat, Jan 6	@ Dallas	8:00 PM	Sat, Apr 13	vs Columbus	8:00 PM
Tue, Jan 9	vs Anaheim	8:00 PM	Mon, Apr 15	@ Pittsburgh	7:00 PM

ASKAROV: DAVID KIROUAC-USA TODAY SPORTS; FORSBERG: DAN HAMILTON-USA TODAY SPORTS

ORGANIZATIONAL ROSTER

GOALIES	AGE	HT.	WT.	CATCHES	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	W-L-OT	GAA	SP
Yaroslav Askarov	21	6-3	178	Right	Omsk, Rus.	11th overall (2020)	Milwaukee (AHL)	48	26-16-5	2.69	.911
Troy Grosenick	34	6-1	181	Left	Brookfield, Wis.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Lehigh Valley (AHL)	6	3-2-0	3.32	.892
Ethan Haider	22	6-4	190	Left	St. Louis Park, Minn.	148th overall (2019)	Clarkson (ECAC)	35	16-16-3	2.51	.906
Juha Jatkola	21	6-1	176	Left	Kuopio, Fin.	121st overall (2023)	KalPa (Fin.)	40	20-11-8	2.16	.903
Kevin Lankinen	28	6-2	190	Left	Helsinki, Fin.	Free Agent: signed 7/14/22	Nashville	19	9-8-1	2.75	.916
Juuse Saros	28	5-11	180	Left	Forssa, Fin.	99th overall (2013)	Nashville	64	33-23-7	2.69	.919
Konstantin Volkov	26	6-3	211	Left	Murmansk, Rus.	168th overall (2016)	Dynamo Moscow (KHL)	31	11-11-0	1.81	.928

DEFENSEMEN	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Tyson Barrie	32	5-11	197	Right	Victoria, B.C.	Trade: Edm 2/28/23	Edmonton	85	13	42	55	36
Alexandre Carrier	26	5-11	174	Right	Quebec City, Que.	115th overall (2015)	Nashville	43	2	7	9	27
Semyon Chystyakov	22	5-10	167	Left	Nizhny Tagil, Rus.	117th overall (2019)	Omsk (KHL)	58	5	22	27	39
Marc Del Gaizo	23	5-11	188	Left	Basking Ridge, N.J.	109th overall (2019)	Milwaukee (AHL)	71	3	28	31	50
Dante Fabbro	25	6-0	189	Right	Coquitlam, B.C.	17th overall (2016)	Nashville	79	2	9	11	50
Kevin Gravel	31	6-4	205	Left	Kingsford, Mich.	Free Agent: signed 7/14/22	Milwaukee (AHL)	49	2	11	13	16
Jordan Gross	28	5-10	190	Right	Maple Grove, Minn.	Free Agent: signed 7/14/22	Milwaukee (AHL)	53	10	28	38	36
Roman Josi	33	6-1	201	Left	Bern, Sui.	38th overall (2008)	Nashville	67	18	41	59	36
Kasper Kulonummi	19	6-1	179	Right	Helsinki, Fin.	84th overall (2022)	Tappara Jr. (Fin.)	36	11	32	43	18
Jeremy Lauzon	26	6-1	204	Left	Val-d'Or, Que.	Trade: Sea 3/20/22	Nashville	67	3	9	12	66
Jake Livingstone	24	6-3	205	Right	Creston, B.C.	Free Agent: signed 3/29/23	Minnesota State (CCHA)	39	8	27	35	30
Dylan MacKinnon	18	6-4	189	Right	Riverview, N.B.	83rd overall (2023)	Halifax (QMJHL)	61	6	17	23	75
Jack Matier	20	6-5	197	Right	Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.	124th overall (2021)	Ottawa (OHL)	58	13	36	49	57
Ryan McDonagh	34	6-1	215	Left	St. Paul, Minn.	Trade: TB 7/3/22	Nashville	71	2	18	20	22
Roland McKeown	27	6-1	195	Right	Listowel, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/14/22	Milwaukee (AHL)	60	6	16	22	40
Tanner Molendyk	18	6-1	182	Left	McBride, B.C.	24th overall (2023)	Saskatoon (WHL)	67	9	28	37	37
Anton Olsson	20	6-2	203	Left	Helsingborg, Swe.	72nd overall (2021)	Skelleftea (Swe.)	41	3	4	7	27
Luke Prokop	21	6-6	221	Right	Edmonton, Alta.	73rd overall (2020)	Seattle (WHL)	43	4	17	21	20
Luke Reid	22	6-1	190	Right	Warman, Sask.	166th overall (2020)	New Hampshire (HE)	35	0	5	5	14
Luke Schenn	33	6-2	225	Right	Saskatoon, Sask.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Vancouver/Toronto	70	4	18	22	84
Spencer Stastney	23	6-0	184	Left	Woodbridge, Ill.	131st overall (2018)	Milwaukee (AHL)	56	5	8	13	10
Graham Sward	20	6-3	186	Left	Langley, B.C.	146th overall (2022)	Spokane/Winnipeg (WHL)	60	4	33	37	46
Ryan Ufko	20	5-11	169	Right	Smithtown, N.Y.	115th overall (2021)	UMass (HE)	32	8	16	24	25
Adam Wilsby	23	6-1	188	Left	Stockholm, Swe.	101st overall (2020)	Milwaukee (AHL)	72	1	17	18	32
Vladislav Yeryomenko	24	6-0	185	Right	Vitebsk, Blr.	151st overall (2018)	Magnitogorsk (KHL)	39	3	4	7	4

CENTERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Anthony Angello	27	6-5	210	Right	Albany, N.Y.	Trade: StL 3/8/23	Springfield/Milwaukee (AHL)	62	13	10	23	87
Nolan Burke	20	6-2	202	Left	Peterborough, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 11/14/22	Sarnia (OHL)	56	50	32	82	35
Cody Glass	24	6-3	206	Right	Winnipeg, Man.	Trade: Veg 7/17/21	Nashville	72	14	21	35	20
Adam Ingram	19	6-2	161	Left	Winnipeg, Man.	82nd overall (2022)	St. Cloud State (NCHC)	41	8	15	23	20
Mark Jankowski	29	6-4	212	Left	Hamilton, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/14/22	Nashville	50	7	5	12	18
Jachym Kondelik	23	6-7	232	Left	Hannover, Ger.	111th overall (2018)	Milwaukee (AHL)	38	5	6	11	22
Chase McLane	23	6-1	175	Right	Trenton, Mich.	209th overall (2020)	Penn State (Big Ten)	21	2	3	5	18
Sutter Muzzatti	21	6-8	226	Left	Okemos, Mich.	143rd overall (2023)	RPI (ECAC)	35	7	15	22	42
Felix Nilsson	18	6-2	178	Left	Stockholm, Swe.	43rd overall (2023)	Rogle Jr. (Swe.)	36	19	22	41	26
Tommy Novak	26	6-1	179	Left	St. Paul, Minn.	85th overall (2015)	Nashville	51	17	26	43	8
Gustav Nyquist	34	5-11	180	Left	Halmstad, Swe.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Columbus/Minnesota	51	11	16	27	16
Ryan O'Reilly	32	6-1	207	Left	Clinton, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	St. Louis/Toronto	53	16	14	30	16
Juuso Parssinen	22	6-3	212	Left	Hameenlinna, Fin.	210th overall (2019)	Nashville	45	6	19	25	15
Colton Sissons	29	6-1	200	Right	North Vancouver, B.C.	50th overall (2012)	Nashville	82	12	18	30	20
Ben Strinden	21	6-0	198	Right	Fargo, N.D.	210th overall (2022)	North Dakota (NCHC)	22	3	6	9	14
Fedor Svechkov	20	6-0	187	Left	Togliatti, Rus.	19th overall (2021)	Spartak Moscow (KHL)	27	2	2	4	5
Philip Tomasino	22	6-0	179	Right	Mississauga, Ont.	24th overall (2019)	Milwaukee (AHL)	38	12	20	32	24
Yakov Trenin	26	6-2	201	Left	Chelyabinsk, Rus.	55th overall (2015)	Nashville	77	12	12	24	47
Jasper Weatherby	25	6-4	222	Left	Portland, Ore.	Trade: SJ 1/18/23	San Jose/Grand Rapids (AHL)	70	6	11	17	51
Joey Willis	18	6-0	185	Left	Elmhurst, Ill.	111th overall (2023)	Saginaw (OHL)	68	15	29	44	22

LEFT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Egor Afanasyev	22	6-4	211	Left	Tver, Rus.	45th overall (2019)	Milwaukee (AHL)	57	13	13	26	26
Alex Campbell	22	5-10	176	Left	Chateauguay, Que.	65th overall (2019)	Clarkson (ECAC)	34	14	12	26	8
Gunnarwolfe Fontaine	23	5-8	175	Left	Providence, R.I.	202nd overall (2020)	Northeastern (HE)	35	10	20	30	8
Filip Forsberg	29	6-1	205	Right	Ostervala, Swe.	Trade: Wsh 4/3/13	Nashville	50	19	23	42	20
Zachary L'Heureux	20	5-11	197	Left	Montreal, Que.	27th overall (2021)	Halifax (QMJHL)	33	21	21	42	34
Kalan Lind	18	6-2	150	Left	Swift Current, Sask.	46th overall (2023)	Red Deer (WHL)	43	16	28	44	80
Navrin Mutter	22	6-3	202	Left	London, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 3/9/22	Milwaukee (AHL)	53	2	6	8	72
Reid Schaefer	20	6-3	215	Left	Edmonton, Alta.	Trade: Edm 2/28/23	Seattle (WHL)	55	28	33	61	92
Kiefer Sherwood	28	6-0	194	Right	Columbus, Ohio	Free Agent: signed 7/14/22	Milwaukee (AHL)	42	22	16	38	22
Cole Smith	27	6-3	195	Left	Brainerd, Minn.	Free Agent: signed 3/19/20	Nashville	69	4	13	17	60

RIGHT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Luke Evangelista	21	6-0	183	Right	Toronto, Ont.	42nd overall (2020)	Milwaukee (AHL)	49	9	32	41	18
Aiden Fink	18	5-11	165	Right	Calgary, Alta.	218th overall (2023)	Brooks (AJHL)	54	41	56	97	32
Denis Gurianov	26	6-3	205	Left	Togliatti, Rus.	Free Agent: signed 7/11/23	Dallas/Montreal	66	7	10	17	10
Joakim Kemell	19	5-11	182	Right	Jyvaskyla, Fin.	17th overall (2022)	JYP (Fin.)	43	12	3	15	14
Jesse Kiiskinen	18	6-2	197	Right	Hollola, Fin.	68th overall (2023)	Pelicans Jr. (Fin.)	31	20	23	43	8
Simon Knak	21	6-1	185	Left	Zurich, Sui.	179th overall (2021)	Davos (Sui.)	50	8	15	23	24
Michael McCarron	28	6-6	232	Right	Grosse Pointe, Mich.	Trade: Mtl 1/7/20	Nashville	32	2	2	4	24
Cole O'Hara	21	6-0	179	Right	Richmond Hill, Ont.	114th overall (2022)	UMass (HE)	32	4	13	17	14
Austin Roest	19	5-11	182	Right	Coldstream, B.C.	175th overall (2023)	Everett (WHL)	60	32	46	78	28
Isak Walther	22	6-4	198	Left	Sodertalje, Swe.	179th overall (2019)	Vermont (HE)	36	9	10	19	24
Matthew Wood	18	6-5	202	Right	Nanaimo, B.C.	15th overall (2023)	Connecticut (HE)	35	11	23	34	4

NEW JERSEY DEVILS

NICO HISCHIER

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BY **SAM NESTLER**

EXTREME EXCITEMENT. That is the buzz. New Jersey finally took the elusive step forward in 2022-23 after missing the playoffs in nine of the previous 10 seasons. Not only were the Devils a legitimate playoff team, they battled for a division title. And only six teams in history have posted a winning streak longer than Jersey's 13-gamer.

This season, they will look to take the next step, as their championship window has just begun to open. The Devils have the blend of youth, prospects and veteran experience needed to make a deep run.

>OFFENSE

Is there a better group of forwards in the NHL? The Devils have their choice of elite skill from Jack Hughes and Jesper Bratt to Timo Meier and Nico Hischier. Hughes broke a Devils franchise record with 99 points last season, Hischier and Bratt both hit 30 goals for the first time, Meier brings a 40-goal resume from San Jose, and the Devils added proven scorer Tyler Toffoli from Calgary for Yegor Sharangovich and a third-round pick. Behind that group, there isn't much drop-off. Ondrej Palat is a veteran Cup winner, Dawson Mercer broke out with 27 goals in his second season, and Dougie Hamilton added 74 points from the blueline. The Devils are deep and should be able to build on their fifth-ranked 3.52 goals per game.

>DEFENSE

New Jersey is not just about offense, as the Devils finished eighth in goals against. Despite losing stalwarts Damon Severson and Ryan Graves, the Devils feel confident in their blueline. The top pair of Hamilton and Jonas

2022-23 NUMBERS

RECORD
52-22-8 (.683)

OVERTIME
11-4

SHOOTOUT
2-4

OVERALL
3rd

OFFENSE
3.52 GPG (5th)

DEFENSE
2.71 GAA (8th)

POWER PLAY
21.9% (13th)

PENALTY KILL
82.6% (4th)

CORSI FOR/60
63.84 (4th)

CORSI AGAINST/60
54.11 (7th)

ICE TIME LEAD (F)
J. Hughes (19:58)

ICE TIME LEAD (D)
D. Hamilton (21:46)

FAST FACTS

COACH
Lindy Ruff

GM
Tom Fitzgerald

ARENA
Prudential Center

CAPACITY
16,514

AHL AFFILIATE
Utica Comets

ECHL AFFILIATE
Adirondack Thunder

PLAYOFF RECORD
5-7 (since 2019)

HISCHIER: SERGEI BELSKI-USA TODAY SPORTS

NEW JERSEY DEVILS

Siegenthaler returns, along with overachieving John Marino and a handful of young players looking to take the next step. New Jersey also added some insurance in veteran right-hander Colin Miller, who spent most of last year skating with Miro Heiskanen in Dallas. If young players can earn spots, the Devils are deep and steady on the back end. If not, they will have some holes to fill.

>GOALTENDING

The crease is easily the biggest question mark for this team. Vitek Vanecek became just the second Devils netminder to record 30 wins in a season, but in the playoffs, it was quite the opposite story. When Vanecek struggled, New Jersey turned to Akira Schmid, then 22. Adding to 14 strong starts in the regular season, Schmid helped the Devils turn a 2-0 series deficit into a Game 7 victory over the New York Rangers. Schmid went 4-1 with a .951 save percentage and two shutouts in the series. The Devils will roll out the same duo to begin the season, but it remains unknown which Vanecek will show up and whether Schmid is truly ready to step in full time.

>SPECIAL TEAMS

Unsurprisingly, elite talent translates into solid special teams. Hughes (nine goals, 31 points) and Hamilton (eight goals, 28 points) led the way for the 13th-best power play. But while finishing the season at 21.9 percent was respectable, the unit let them down in the playoffs. The Devils scored only six power-play goals in 12 games, finishing at 16.7 percent, 13th among 16 teams. Toffoli (10 PP goals last season) will make the group better, and Luke Hughes is another potential weapon when a man up. Killing penalties at an 82.6-percent clip and scoring nine shorthanded goals was good enough to rank the penalty kill in the top five. Most importantly, the PK replicated its performance in the playoffs.

>INTANGIBLES

The Devils might be the fastest team in the league. When they're at their best, they quickly transition from breakout to neutral zone and into an offensive attack. Captain Hischier leads the way, playing near-perfect two-way hockey that rubs off on his teammates.

CUP ODDS

16/1

That 200-foot game requires speed, skill and toughness, of which the Devils have ensured they have plenty.

>ROOKIES

New Jersey has loads of young talent in its system. There are lofty expectations for D-men Luke Hughes and Simon Nemec and right winger Alexander Holtz (though Holtz is no longer Calder eligible). Each is expected to make a difference at some point, with Hughes and Holtz looking to build off short NHL stints and Nemec hoping to make his debut.

>X-FACTOR

At the end of last season, fans finally witnessed the long-awaited debut of Luke Hughes. Jack's younger brother was impressive in five regular-season and playoff games following NCAA Michigan's Frozen Four defeat. He scored the game-winner in the Devils' season finale and added two points in three playoff contests. Hughes makes the Devils more dangerous and will have the chance to prove he is more than ready to make a big-league impact at 20.

>THE BRASS

Devils GM Tom Fitzgerald is a popular man in the Garden State. After transitioning to better days, he has built the Devils into a true Cup contender. Coach Lindy Ruff has yet to sign an extension, but after an excellent season, and according to Fitzgerald, he is well aware that his future is in New Jersey.

DEPTH CHART | 2023-24

LEFT WING	CENTER	RIGHT WING
1. Timo Meier	1. Jack Hughes	1. Tyler Toffoli
2. Jesper Bratt	2. Nico Hischier	2. Dawson Mercer
3. Ondrej Palat	3. Erik Haula	3. Alexander Holtz
4. Tomas Nosek	4. Michael McLeod	4. Nathan Bastian
5. Nolan Foote	5. Curtis Lazar	5. Graeme Clarke

DEFENSE		GOALIE
1. Dougie Hamilton	6. Colin Miller	1. Vitek Vanecek
2. Jonas Siegenthaler	7. Brendan Smith	2. Akira Schmid
3. Kevin Bahl	8. Simon Nemec	3. Nico Daws
4. Luke Hughes	9. Cal Foote	INJURED
5. John Marino	10. Tyler Wotherspoon	INDICATES NEW ARRIVAL

KEY DEPARTURES & UNSIGNED UFAs Damon Severson, D; Miles Wood, LW; Jesper Boqvist, C; Ryan Graves, D; Mackenzie Blackwood, G; Tomas Tatar, LW; Yegor Sharangovich, C

HUGHES: DAN HAMILTON-USA TODAY SPORTS

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FUTURE WATCH

NOW IN A CONTENDING window, the Devils have traded some prospect capital in exchange for immediate reinforcements while also graduating kids to the big squad. The fun battle will be on the blueline, where Luke Hughes and Simon Nemec bring a ton of potential. Further down the road, they'll be joined by the wickedly mobile Seamus Casey. The 2023 draft was quieter, though second-rounder Lenni Hameenaho was highly regarded by scouts in Europe for his all-around game.

TOP 10 PROSPECTS

1. Luke Hughes, D
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Michigan (Big Ten)
Hughes Bros. is open for business. NCAA standout saw NHL playoff action right out of college.
Acquired 4th overall, 2021 **NHL** '23-24

2. Simon Nemec, D
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Utica (AHL)
He times everything well, be it a pass, rush, pinch or check. He's ready whenever the Devils are.
Acquired 2nd overall, 2022 **NHL** '23-24

3. Akira Schmid, G
Age 23 **2022-23 Team** Utica (AHL)
Great rebound control limits second-chance opportunities. Good NHL stint. Set for backup role.
Acquired 136th overall, 2018 **NHL** '23-24

4. Lenni Hameenaho, RW
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Assat (Fin.)
He often goes unnoticed because he plays a safe, mistake-free game. But that can go a long way.
Acquired 58th overall, 2023 **NHL** '27-28

5. Topias Vilen, D
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Lahti (Fin.)
Taste of AHL prepared him for what's to come. Skates well and is composed with the puck.
Acquired 129th overall, 2021 **NHL** '26-27

6. Nico Daws, G
Age 22 **2022-23 Team** Utica (AHL)
Poised in the crease and doesn't panic. Covers a lot of daylight with rangy 6-foot-4 frame.
Acquired 84th overall, 2020 **NHL** '25-26

7. Seamus Casey, D
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Michigan (Big Ten)
A good base allows him to win corner battles and ward off forecheckers despite smaller frame.
Acquired 46th overall, 2022 **NHL** '26-27

8. Nolan Foote, LW
Age 22 **2022-23 Team** Utica (AHL)
Moving steadily along learning curve and adapting into a strong, hardnosed power forward.
Acquired From TB, Feb. 16, 2020 **NHL** '24-25

9. Chase Stillman, RW
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Peterborough (OHL)
Top-line speed, but he plays an energetic, physical style best suited to a middle-six role.
Acquired 29th overall, 2021 **NHL** '24-25

10. Arseny Gritsyuk, RW
Age 22 **2022-23 Team** Omsk (KHL)
KHL rookie of the year in 2021-22 saw offense flatline in sophomore season. But tons of upside.
Acquired 129th overall, 2019 **NHL** '25-26

SCHEDULE | 2023-24

Thu, Oct 12	vs Detroit	7:00 PM	Wed, Jan 17	vs Montreal	7:00 PM
Fri, Oct 13	vs Arizona	7:00 PM	Fri, Jan 19	@ Columbus	7:00 PM
Mon, Oct 16	vs Florida	7:00 PM	Sat, Jan 20	vs Dallas	7:00 PM
Fri, Oct 20	@ NY Islanders	7:30 PM	Mon, Jan 22	vs Vegas	7:00 PM
Tue, Oct 24	@ Montreal	7:15 PM	Thu, Jan 25	@ Carolina	7:00 PM
Wed, Oct 25	vs Washington	7:30 PM	Sat, Jan 27	@ Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Fri, Oct 27	vs Buffalo	7:00 PM	Tue, Feb 6	vs Colorado	7:00 PM
Sun, Oct 29	vs Minnesota	5:00 PM	Thu, Feb 8	vs Calgary	7:00 PM
Thu, Nov 2	@ Minnesota	8:00 PM	Sat, Feb 10	@ Carolina	7:00 PM
Fri, Nov 3	@ St. Louis	8:00 PM	Mon, Feb 12	vs Seattle	7:00 PM
Sun, Nov 5	@ Chicago	7:00 PM	Tue, Feb 13	@ Nashville	8:00 PM
Tue, Nov 7	@ Colorado	10:00 PM	Thu, Feb 15	vs Los Angeles	7:00 PM
Fri, Nov 10	vs Washington	7:00 PM	Sat, Feb 17	vs Philadelphia*	8:00 PM
Tue, Nov 14	@ Winnipeg	8:00 PM	Tue, Feb 20	@ Washington	7:00 PM
Thu, Nov 16	@ Pittsburgh	7:00 PM	Thu, Feb 22	vs NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Sat, Nov 18	vs NY Rangers	7:00 PM	Sat, Feb 24	vs Montreal	12:30 PM
Wed, Nov 22	@ Detroit	7:00 PM	Sun, Feb 25	vs Tampa Bay	1:00 PM
Fri, Nov 24	vs Columbus	7:00 PM	Tue, Feb 27	@ San Jose	10:30 PM
Sat, Nov 25	vs Buffalo	7:00 PM	Fri, Mar 1	@ Anaheim	10:00 PM
Tue, Nov 28	vs NY Islanders	7:00 PM	Sun, Mar 3	@ Los Angeles	3:30 PM
Thu, Nov 30	@ Philadelphia	7:00 PM	Tue, Mar 5	vs Florida	7:00 PM
Fri, Dec 1	vs San Jose	7:00 PM	Thu, Mar 7	vs St. Louis	7:00 PM
Tue, Dec 5	@ Vancouver	10:00 PM	Sat, Mar 9	vs Carolina	12:30 PM
Thu, Dec 7	@ Seattle	10:00 PM	Mon, Mar 11	@ NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 9	@ Calgary	4:00 PM	Thu, Mar 14	@ Dallas	8:00 PM
Sun, Dec 10	@ Edmonton	4:00 PM	Sat, Mar 16	@ Arizona	5:00 PM
Wed, Dec 13	vs Boston	7:30 PM	Sun, Mar 17	@ Vegas	3:30 PM
Sat, Dec 16	@ Columbus	7:00 PM	Tue, Mar 19	vs Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Sun, Dec 17	vs Anaheim	7:00 PM	Thu, Mar 21	vs Winnipeg	7:00 PM
Tue, Dec 19	vs Philadelphia	7:00 PM	Sat, Mar 23	vs Ottawa	7:00 PM
Thu, Dec 21	vs Edmonton	7:00 PM	Sun, Mar 24	@ NY Islanders	5:00 PM
Sat, Dec 23	vs Detroit	7:00 PM	Tue, Mar 26	@ Toronto	7:00 PM
Wed, Dec 27	vs Columbus	7:00 PM	Fri, Mar 29	@ Buffalo	7:00 PM
Fri, Dec 29	@ Ottawa	7:00 PM	Tue, Apr 2	vs Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 30	@ Boston	7:00 PM	Wed, Apr 3	@ NY Rangers	7:30 PM
Wed, Jan 3	@ Washington	7:30 PM	Sat, Apr 6	@ Ottawa	7:00 PM
Fri, Jan 5	vs Chicago	7:00 PM	Sun, Apr 7	vs Nashville	7:00 PM
Sat, Jan 6	vs Vancouver	7:00 PM	Tue, Apr 9	vs Toronto	7:00 PM
Thu, Jan 11	@ Tampa Bay	7:00 PM	Thu, Apr 11	@ Toronto	7:00 PM
Sat, Jan 13	@ Florida	6:00 PM	Sat, Apr 13	@ Philadelphia	5:00 PM
Mon, Jan 15	@ Boston	1:00 PM	Mon, Apr 15	vs NY Islanders	7:00 PM

**Stadium Series*

HUGHES: JAMES GUILLORY-USA TODAY SPORTS; HAMILTON: SERGEI BELSKI-USA TODAY SPORTS

ORGANIZATIONAL ROSTER

GOALIES	AGE	HT.	WT.	CATCHES	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	W-L-OT	GAA	SP
Cole Brady	22	6-5	175	Left	Pickering, Ont.	127th overall (2019)	UMass (HE)	12	4-5-0	3.10	.907
Tyler Brennan	20	6-4	180	Left	Winnipeg, Man.	102nd overall (2022)	Prince George (WHL)	37	21-10-3	2.86	.898
Nico Daws	22	6-4	205	Left	Munich, Ger.	84th overall (2020)	Utica (AHL)	33	16-14-3	2.70	.904
Erik Kallgren	26	6-3	200	Left	Stockholm, Swe.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Toronto (AHL)	24	10-9-2	3.26	.883
Jakub Malek	21	6-4	170	Left	Kromeriz, Cze.	100th overall (2021)	Ilves (Fin.)	22	9-7-4	2.15	.903
Akira Schmid	23	6-5	205	Left	Bern, Sui.	136th overall (2018)	Utica (AHL)	23	11-7-4	2.62	.905
Vitek Vanecek	27	6-2	184	Left	Havlickuv Brod, Cze.	Trade: Wsh 7/8/22	New Jersey	52	33-11-4	2.45	.911

DEFENSEMEN	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Kevin Bahl	23	6-6	230	Left	New Westminster, B.C.	Trade: Ari 12/16/19	New Jersey	42	2	6	8	35
Artem Barabosha	19	6-3	189	Right	Omsk, Rus.	198th overall (2022)	K.A. Moscow Jr. (Rus.)	48	1	4	5	49
Seamus Casey	19	5-9	162	Right	Miami, Fla.	46th overall (2022)	Michigan (Big Ten)	37	8	21	29	9
Chase Cheslock	18	6-3	208	Right	Rogers, Minn.	154th overall (2023)	Rogers (USHS)	28	4	27	31	19
Ethan Edwards	21	5-10	176	Left	Grande Prairie, Alta.	120th overall (2020)	Michigan (Big Ten)	37	4	10	14	69
Cal Foote	24	6-5	224	Right	Denver, Colo.	Free Agent: signed 8/9/23	Tampa Bay/Nashville	50	2	5	7	63
Dougie Hamilton	30	6-6	230	Right	Toronto, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/28/21	New Jersey	82	22	52	74	50
Santeri Hatakka	22	6-1	191	Left	Riihimaki, Fin.	Trade: SJ 2/26/23	San Jose (AHL)	8	0	2	2	2
Luke Hughes	20	6-2	184	Left	Manchester, N.H.	4th overall (2021)	Michigan (Big Ten)	39	10	38	48	26
Viktor Hurtig	21	6-5	191	Right	Falun, Swe.	164th overall (2021)	Michigan State (Big Ten)	34	1	4	5	16
Daniil Karpovich	18	6-3	209	Left	Minsk, Blr.	186th overall (2023)	Yekaterinburg Jr. (Rus.)	47	10	25	35	30
Charles Leddy	19	6-1	184	Right	Fairfield, Conn.	126th overall (2022)	Boston College (HE)	35	2	5	7	47
John Marino	26	6-1	181	Right	North Easton, Mass.	Trade: Pit 7/16/22	New Jersey	64	4	14	18	20
Case McCarthy	22	6-1	198	Right	Troy, N.Y.	118th overall (2019)	Boston University (HE)	35	3	12	15	14
Colin Miller	30	6-1	200	Right	Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.	Trade: Dal 7/1/23	Dallas	79	6	15	21	37
Daniil Misyul	22	6-3	176	Left	Minsk, Blr.	70th overall (2019)	Yaroslavl (KHL)	59	0	7	7	30
Simon Nemec	19	6-1	190	Right	Liptovsky Mikulas, Svk.	2nd overall (2022)	Utica (AHL)	65	12	22	34	20
Daniil Orlov	19	6-2	180	Left	Elektrostal, Rus.	110th overall (2022)	Spartak Moscow Jr. (Rus.)	18	2	6	8	4
Jonas Siegenthaler	26	6-2	218	Left	Zurich, Sui.	Trade: Wsh 4/11/21	New Jersey	80	4	17	21	44
Brendan Smith	34	6-2	200	Left	Mimico, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	New Jersey	60	0	5	5	63
Topias Vilen	20	6-1	194	Left	Lahti, Fin.	129th overall (2021)	Pelicans (Fin.)	41	9	8	17	6
Michael Vukojevic	22	6-3	215	Left	Oakville, Ont.	82nd overall (2019)	Utica (AHL)	37	2	1	3	17
Tyler Wotherspoon	30	6-2	207	Left	Burnaby, B.C.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Utica (AHL)	65	4	17	21	22
Yegor Zaitsev	25	6-0	180	Left	Moscow, Rus.	205th overall (2017)	Dynamo Moscow (KHL)	35	1	2	3	26

CENTERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Zakhar Bardakov	22	6-2	198	Left	Berdsk, Rus.	203rd overall (2021)	St. Petersburg (KHL)	42	6	12	18	45
Shane Bowers	24	6-2	186	Left	Halifax, N.S.	Trade: Bos 6/26/23	Colorado/Providence (AHL)	57	8	13	21	16
Kyle Criscuolo	31	5-9	175	Right	Southampton, N.J.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Grand Rapids/San Jose (AHL)	60	17	12	29	33
Justin Dowling	33	5-10	180	Left	Calgary, Alta.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Abbotsford (AHL)	56	11	35	46	18
Nico Hischier	24	6-1	175	Left	Brig, Sui.	1st overall (2017)	New Jersey	81	31	49	80	10
Jack Hughes	22	5-11	175	Left	Orlando, Fla.	1st overall (2019)	New Jersey	78	43	56	99	6
Curtis Lazar	28	6-0	203	Right	Salmon Arm, B.C.	Trade: Van 3/3/23	Vancouver/New Jersey	49	3	2	5	21
Michael McLeod	25	6-2	190	Right	Mississauga, Ont.	12th overall (2016)	New Jersey	80	4	22	26	43
Dawson Mercer	21	6-0	180	Right	Carbonear, Nfld.	18th overall (2020)	New Jersey	82	27	29	56	14
Jaromir Pytlik	22	6-2	200	Right	Dacice, Cze.	99th overall (2020)	Kladno (Cze.)	33	2	1	3	8
Samu Salminen	20	6-2	186	Left	Helsinki, Fin.	68th overall (2021)	Connecticut (HE)	27	9	8	17	14
Artem Shlaine	21	6-1	165	Left	Moscow, Rus.	130th overall (2020)	Northern Michigan (CCHA)	38	11	21	32	18
Chris Tierney	29	6-1	191	Left	Keswick, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/14/23	Florida/Montreal	36	3	7	10	6

LEFT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Jesper Bratt	25	5-10	175	Left	Stockholm, Swe.	162nd overall (2016)	New Jersey	82	32	41	73	6
Cole Brown	18	6-2	178	Left	Toronto, Ont.	164th overall (2023)	Hamilton (OHL)	60	17	25	42	41
Josh Filmon	19	6-1	158	Left	Winnipeg, Man.	166th overall (2022)	Swift Current (WHL)	64	47	28	75	38
Nolan Foote	22	6-3	196	Left	Denver, Colo.	Trade: TB 2/16/20	Utica (AHL)	55	20	17	37	27
Brian Halonen	24	6-0	207	Right	Delano, Minn.	Free Agent: signed 3/27/22	Utica (AHL)	57	17	13	30	46
Erik Haula	32	5-11	191	Left	Pori, Fin.	Trade: Bos 7/13/22	New Jersey	80	14	27	41	47
Tomas Nosek	31	6-3	205	Left	Pardubice, Cze.	Free Agent: signed 7/28/21	Boston	66	7	11	18	48
Ondrej Palat	32	6-0	194	Left	Frydek-Mistek, Cze.	Free Agent: signed 7/14/22	New Jersey	49	8	15	23	6
Nikita Popugaev	24	6-6	217	Right	Moscow, Rus.	98th overall (2017)	Sochi/St. Petersburg (KHL)	54	9	9	18	19

RIGHT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Nathan Bastian	25	6-4	205	Right	Kitchener, Ont.	Waivers: Sea 11/25/21	New Jersey	43	6	9	15	31
Graeme Clarke	22	6-0	175	Right	Waconia, Minn.	80th overall (2019)	Utica (AHL)	68	25	33	58	18
Arseny Gritsyuk	22	5-11	174	Left	Krasnoyarsk, Rus.	129th overall (2019)	Omsk (KHL)	66	15	25	40	26
Lenni Hameenaho	18	6-0	173	Right	Kajaani, Fin.	58th overall (2023)	Assat (Fin.)	51	9	12	21	14
Petr Hauser	20	6-3	200	Right	Pilsen, Cze.	141st overall (2022)	Sokolov (Cze.2)	35	6	13	19	22
Alexander Holtz	21	6-0	195	Right	Stockholm, Swe.	7th overall (2020)	New Jersey	19	3	1	4	8
Timo Meier	26	6-1	220	Left	Herisau, Sui.	Trade: SJ 2/26/23	San Jose/New Jersey	78	40	26	66	43
Patrick Moynihan	22	5-11	183	Right	Millis, Mass.	158th overall (2019)	Providence (HE)	34	7	3	10	41
Cam Squires	18	6-0	165	Right	Charlottetown, P.E.I.	122nd overall (2023)	Cape Breton (QMJHL)	67	30	34	64	28
Chase Stillman	20	6-1	185	Right	St. Louis, Mo.	29th overall (2021)	Peterborough (OHL)	59	19	29	48	77
Tyce Thompson	24	6-1	175	Right	Calgary, Alta.	96th overall (2019)	Utica (AHL)	56	7	19	26	32
Tyler Toffoli	31	6-0	203	Right	Scarborough, Ont.	Trade: Cgy 6/27/23	Calgary	82	34	39	73	28

NEW YORK ISLANDERS

ILYA SOROKIN

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BY **ALLAN KREDA**

THE ISLANDERS MADE THE playoffs in their second campaign at UBS Arena after missing the post-season for the first time since 2018 in 2021-22. They played admirably under first-year coach Lane Lambert, finishing 42-31-9 with a late surge before falling to Carolina in six games in the first round of the playoffs.

GM Lou Lamoriello held on to his assets during free agency, giving long-term contracts to left winger Pierre Engvall, who was acquired at the deadline, and veteran defenseman Scott Mayfield, as well as keeping both goaltenders on Long Island for at least the next four seasons.

Where will the Islanders finish in a division stocked with Carolina, resurgent New Jersey, plus Pittsburgh and the rival Rangers? That depends on the usual intangibles and variables. The Islanders have one of the NHL's oldest rosters, thus the perennial pressure to win is that much more pronounced.

>OFFENSE

The offense was led by Brock Nelson, with 36 goals and 75 points, which was 24 points ahead of runner-up Mathew Barzal, who missed 24 games with injuries. Captain Anders Lee chipped in 28 goals. Barzal signed an eight-year, $73.2-million contract extension in October and must deliver more as he enters his seventh NHL campaign. The Isles' key addition was center Bo Horvat – via trade from Vancouver – who signed for eight years and was a stabilizing factor on faceoffs and at both ends of the ice. Engvall also joined in a late-season trade with Toronto and scored five times in 18 games. The Islanders still have one of the league's most effective grit lines, with

2022-23 NUMBERS

RECORD
42-31-9 (.567)

OVERTIME
5-4

SHOOTOUT
1-5

OVERALL
15th

OFFENSE
2.95 GPG (22nd)

DEFENSE
2.65 GAA (5th)

POWER PLAY
15.8% (30th)

PENALTY KILL
82.2% (9th)

CORSI FOR/60
58.34 (10th)

CORSI AGAINST/60
58.94 (23rd)

ICE TIME LEAD (F)
B. Horvat (20:24)

ICE TIME LEAD (D)
A. Pelech (21:39)

FAST FACTS

COACH
Lane Lambert

GM
Lou Lamoriello

ARENA
UBS Arena

CAPACITY
17,255

AHL AFFILIATE
Bridgeport Islanders

ECHL AFFILIATE
Worcester Railers

PLAYOFF RECORD
30-25 (since 2019)

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NEW YORK ISLANDERS

MATHEW BARZAL

Casey Cizikas centering Cal Clutterbuck and Matt Martin, but all three are well into their 30s.

>DEFENSE

Defense was a decided strength during the Barry Trotz era, and that trend has continued under Lambert. Ryan Pulock, with his booming slapshot, and Adam Pelech, with his steady play, give the Isles a top-notch pairing. Mayfield signed a seven-year extension in July, and 23-year-old Noah Dobson had another solid offensive season in 2022-23, with 13 goals and 49 points. Alexander Romanov, also 23, brought a combination of size and speed in his first season with the Islanders. Sebastian Aho made strides, with 23 points in 71 games. Samuel Bolduc, 22, impressed enough in 17 games to earn a two-year extension.

>GOALTENDING

Ilya Sorokin and Semyon Varlamov have been a solid tandem for the past three seasons, and their partnership is set to continue into 2023-24 and beyond. Sorokin, 28, is unquestionably the starter and put up Vezina Trophy-level numbers again in 2022-23, going 31-22-7 with a 2.34 goals-against average. The 35-year-old Varlamov signed for four more years, while Sorokin has a new eight-year, $66-million deal that commences in 2024-25.

>SPECIAL TEAMS

The power play is always a threat, with Lee's large frame planted in the crease, Barzal creating plays and Pulock's heavy shot from the point. Dobson also proved to be a key contributor last season. Penalty killing is perennially strong thanks to the relentless play of all units and the ability of fleet-footed skaters such as Jean-Gabriel Pageau, who is dynamic on the power play as well as killing penalties. Each member of the Cizikas-Clutterbuck-Martin trio also kills penalties and provides big energy shifts. The hard-working unit has been together for eight of the past 10 seasons – missing only the two years Martin played in Toronto.

>INTANGIBLES

Raucous home fans at UBS Arena are a particular key for the Islanders. The Isles' core has been together for many seasons, and players and their families live near each other on Long Island. Those off-ice bonds surely help on-ice performance. Lee has proven to be an excellent captain, and with a raft of veterans including lifetime Islanders such as Nelson and Cizikas, there's no shortage in the leadership department.

CUP ODDS

43/1

>ROOKIES

Bolduc, drafted 57th overall in 2019, is the best bet to crack the roster and stick around. The 6-foot-4, 220-pounder has good mobility for his size and could see some PP time, too.

>X-FACTOR

Barzal still must discover the proverbial "higher gear" long anticipated by management and the fan base. Pageau had just 13 goals, while Kyle Palmieri – a key acquisition just before the 2021 playoffs – scored only 16 goals. Both veteran forwards need to generate more offense for the Islanders to strongly contend in 2023-24.

>THE BRASS

After four years as an Isles associate coach under Trotz – following seven seasons as an assistant in Nashville and then Washington – Lambert did an admirable job in his first season as the lead voice behind the bench. Lamoriello continues to run a tight ship, and Lambert proved the Islanders will maintain the tight-checking, defense-first mantra that has generated success for most of the past five campaigns.

DEPTH CHART | 2023-24

LEFT WING	CENTER	RIGHT WING
1. Anders Lee	1. Bo Horvat	1. Kyle Palmieri
2. Pierre Engvall	2. Mathew Barzal	2. Oliver Wahlstrom
3. Hudson Fasching	3. Brock Nelson	3. Simon Holmstrom
4. Matt Martin	4. Jean-Gabriel Pageau	4. Cal Clutterbuck
5. Ross Johnston	5. Casey Cizikas	5. Julien Gauthier

DEFENSE		GOALIE
1. Ryan Pulock	6. Sebastian Aho	1. Ilya Sorokin
2. Adam Pelech	7. Samuel Bolduc	2. Semyon Varlamov
3. Noah Dobson	8. Robin Salo	3. Jakub Skarek
4. Alexander Romanov	9. Dennis Cholowski	INJURED
5. Scott Mayfield	10. Grant Hutton	INDICATES NEW ARRIVAL

KEY DEPARTURES & UNSIGNED UFAs Josh Bailey, RW; Zach Parise, LW; Parker Wotherspoon, D; Cole Bardreau, C

BARZAL: DAVID KIROUAC-USA TODAY SPORTS

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FUTURE WATCH

THE ISLES HAVEN'T HAD a first-round pick since 2019 (Simon Holmstrom), and their last prospect to truly hit was defenseman Noah Dobson. But there aren't a lot of roster spots to grab right now, so it hasn't been an issue yet. Looking ahead, the future on Long Island is athletic. In 2022, they took two of the top-skating blueliners in the class in Calle Odelius and Isaiah George, while 2023 brought a couple of sturdy U.S. NTDP products in center Danny Nelson and defenseman Zachary Schulz.

TOP 10 PROSPECTS

1. William Dufour, RW
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** Bridgeport (AHL)
Excellent AHL rookie campaign puts him on fast track to NHL. He's really blossomed.
Acquired 152nd overall, 2020 **NHL** '24-25

2. Danny Nelson, C
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** USA U18 (NTDP)
Former defenseman skates well given his 6-foot-3 frame. Position change makes him a project.
Acquired 49th overall, 2023 **NHL** '28-29

3. Samuel Bolduc, D
Age 22 **2022-23 Team** Bridgeport (AHL)
Everything clicked as AHL performance led to NHL minutes. He'll fight for opening-night spot.
Acquired 57th overall, 2019 **NHL** '23-24

4. Calle Odelius, D
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Djurgarden (Swe.2)
Elusive skater slips checks and wheels up the ice. Not a big producer, but he's a steady defender.
Acquired 65th overall, 2022 **NHL** '26-27

5. Ruslan Iskhakov, C
Age 23 **2022-23 Team** Bridgeport (AHL)
Size concerns are mitigated by his slippery, playmaking nature. He thrives on the perimeter.
Acquired 43rd overall, 2018 **NHL** '24-25

6. Quinn Finley, LW
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Chicago (USHL)
Headed to Wisconsin after breakout USHL season. Good at varying release to surprise goalies.
Acquired 78th overall, 2022 **NHL** '27-28

7. Matthew Maggio, RW
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Windsor (OHL)
Turns on the red light whenever he has time and space. The AHL will be a major proving ground.
Acquired 142nd overall, 2022 **NHL** '25-26

8. Alex Jefferies, LW
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** Merrimack (HE)
Great junior season and continuing upward trajectory in college. He'll be given time to grow.
Acquired 121st overall, 2020 **NHL** '25-26

9. Jesse Nurmi, LW
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** KooKoo Jr. (Fin.)
An all-star in junior, but he'll make his living as a pro doing the dirty work that others won't.
Acquired 113th overall, 2023 **NHL** '27-28

10. Tristan Lennox, G
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Saginaw (OHL)
His numbers don't leap off the page, but he has projectable size and plenty of potential.
Acquired 93rd overall, 2021 **NHL** '27-28

SCHEDULE | 2023-24

Sat, Oct 14	vs Buffalo	7:30 PM
Tue, Oct 17	vs Arizona	7:30 PM
Fri, Oct 20	vs New Jersey	7:30 PM
Sat, Oct 21	@ Buffalo	7:00 PM
Tue, Oct 24	vs Colorado	8:00 PM
Thu, Oct 26	vs Ottawa	7:30 PM
Sat, Oct 28	@ Columbus	7:00 PM
Mon, Oct 30	vs Detroit	7:30 PM
Thu, Nov 2	@ Washington	7:00 PM
Sat, Nov 4	vs Carolina	7:30 PM
Tue, Nov 7	vs Minnesota	7:30 PM
Thu, Nov 9	@ Boston	7:00 PM
Sat, Nov 11	vs Washington	7:30 PM
Mon, Nov 13	@ Edmonton	8:30 PM
Wed, Nov 15	@ Vancouver	10:30 PM
Thu, Nov 16	@ Seattle	10:00 PM
Sat, Nov 18	@ Calgary	7:00 PM
Wed, Nov 22	vs Philadelphia	7:30 PM
Fri, Nov 24	@ Ottawa	7:30 PM
Sat, Nov 25	vs Philadelphia	7:30 PM
Tue, Nov 28	@ New Jersey	7:00 PM
Thu, Nov 30	@ Carolina	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 2	@ Florida	6:00 PM
Tue, Dec 5	vs San Jose	7:30 PM
Thu, Dec 7	vs Columbus	7:30 PM
Sat, Dec 9	vs Los Angeles	7:30 PM
Mon, Dec 11	vs Toronto	7:00 PM
Wed, Dec 13	vs Anaheim	7:30 PM
Fri, Dec 15	vs Boston	7:30 PM
Sat, Dec 16	@ Montreal	7:00 PM
Tue, Dec 19	vs Edmonton	7:30 PM
Wed, Dec 20	@ Washington	7:30 PM
Sat, Dec 23	@ Carolina	7:00 PM
Wed, Dec 27	vs Pittsburgh	7:30 PM
Fri, Dec 29	vs Washington	7:30 PM
Sun, Dec 31	@ Pittsburgh	6:00 PM
Tue, Jan 2	@ Colorado	9:00 PM
Thu, Jan 4	@ Arizona	9:00 PM
Sat, Jan 6	@ Vegas	10:00 PM
Tue, Jan 9	vs Vancouver	7:30 PM
Thu, Jan 11	vs Toronto	7:30 PM
Sat, Jan 13	@ Nashville	8:00 PM
Mon, Jan 15	@ Minnesota	5:00 PM
Tue, Jan 16	@ Winnipeg	8:00 PM
Fri, Jan 19	@ Chicago	8:30 PM
Sun, Jan 21	vs Dallas	7:30 PM
Tue, Jan 23	vs Vegas	7:30 PM
Thu, Jan 25	@ Montreal	7:00 PM
Sat, Jan 27	vs Florida	7:30 PM
Mon, Feb 5	@ Toronto	7:00 PM
Thu, Feb 8	vs Tampa Bay	7:30 PM
Sat, Feb 10	vs Calgary	1:00 PM
Tue, Feb 13	vs Seattle	7:30 PM
Sun, Feb 18	vs NY Rangers*	3:00 PM
Tue, Feb 20	@ Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Thu, Feb 22	@ St. Louis	8:00 PM
Sat, Feb 24	vs Tampa Bay	12:30 PM
Mon, Feb 26	@ Dallas	8:00 PM
Thu, Feb 29	@ Detroit	7:00 PM
Sat, Mar 2	vs Boston	3:00 PM
Tue, Mar 5	vs St. Louis	7:30 PM
Thu, Mar 7	@ San Jose	10:30 PM
Sun, Mar 10	@ Anaheim	8:00 PM
Mon, Mar 11	@ Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Thu, Mar 14	@ Buffalo	7:00 PM
Sat, Mar 16	vs Ottawa	12:30 PM
Sun, Mar 17	@ NY Rangers	1:00 PM
Tue, Mar 19	vs Carolina	7:30 PM
Thu, Mar 21	@ Detroit	7:00 PM
Sat, Mar 23	vs Winnipeg	1:00 PM
Sun, Mar 24	vs New Jersey	5:00 PM
Thu, Mar 28	@ Florida	7:00 PM
Sat, Mar 30	@ Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Mon, Apr 1	@ Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Tue, Apr 2	vs Chicago	7:30 PM
Thu, Apr 4	@ Columbus	7:00 PM
Sat, Apr 6	vs Nashville	7:30 PM
Tue, Apr 9	vs NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Thu, Apr 11	vs Montreal	7:30 PM
Sat, Apr 13	@ NY Rangers	12:30 PM
Mon, Apr 15	@ New Jersey	7:00 PM
Wed, Apr 17	vs Pittsburgh	7:00 PM

**Stadium Series*

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ORGANIZATIONAL ROSTER

NEW YORK ISLANDERS

GOALIES	AGE	HT.	WT.	CATCHES	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	W-L-OT	GAA	SP
Kenneth Appleby	28	6-5	210	Left	North Bay, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 4/9/21	Worcester (ECHL)	30	13-13-1	3.01	.907
Tristan Lennox	20	6-3	205	Left	Ottawa, Ont.	93rd overall (2021)	Saginaw (OHL)	45	25-15-4	3.15	.888
Jakub Skarek	23	6-3	205	Left	Jihlava, Cze.	72nd overall (2018)	Bridgeport (AHL)	38	15-16-3	3.37	.892
Ilya Sorokin	28	6-3	195	Left	Mezhdurechensk, Rus.	78th overall (2014)	NY Islanders	62	31-22-7	2.34	.924
Semyon Varlamov	35	6-2	206	Left	Samara, Rus.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/19	NY Islanders	23	11-9-2	2.70	.913

DEFENSEMEN	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Sebastian Aho	27	5-10	186	Left	Umea, Swe.	139th overall (2017)	NY Islanders	71	5	18	23	22
Samuel Bolduc	22	6-4	220	Left	Laval, Que.	57th overall (2019)	Bridgeport (AHL)	56	10	25	35	31
Dennis Cholowski	25	6-2	210	Left	Langley, B.C.	Free Agent: signed 8/23/22	Bridgeport (AHL)	67	1	37	38	26
Noah Dobson	23	6-4	194	Right	Summerside, P.E.I.	12th overall (2018)	NY Islanders	78	13	36	49	20
Aidan Fulp	23	6-4	216	Right	Westfield, Ind.	Free Agent: signed 3/31/23	Western Michigan (NCHC)	38	2	13	15	24
Isaiah George	19	6-0	195	Left	Oakville, Ont.	98th overall (2022)	London (OHL)	54	7	15	22	14
Dennis Good Bogg	19	6-1	191	Left	Stockholm, Swe.	209th overall (2023)	AIK Jr. (Swe.)	39	4	24	28	62
Grant Hutton	28	6-4	214	Right	Carmel, Ind.	Free Agent: signed 3/21/19	Bridgeport (AHL)	39	4	6	10	16
Christian Krygier	23	6-2	192	Left	Orlando, Fla.	196th overall (2018)	Michigan State (Big Ten)	28	1	3	4	23
Paul LaDue	31	6-3	205	Right	Grand Forks, N.D.	Free Agent: signed 9/16/21	Bridgeport (AHL)	49	0	8	8	33
Tomas Machu	20	6-4	189	Right	Ostrava, Cze.	221st overall (2021)	Youngstown (USHL)	57	4	10	14	39
Aleksi Malinen	20	6-0	176	Left	Tuusula, Fin.	189th overall (2021)	JYP (Fin.)	42	0	7	7	2
Scott Mayfield	30	6-5	220	Right	St. Louis, Mo.	34th overall (2011)	NY Islanders	82	6	18	24	83
Travis Mitchell	23	6-3	201	Left	South Lyon, Mich.	Free Agent: signed 3/31/23	Cornell (ECAC)	34	6	13	19	20
Calle Odelius	19	5-11	185	Left	Nykvarn, Swe.	65th overall (2022)	Djurgarden (Swe.2)	43	1	10	11	14
Adam Pelech	29	6-3	210	Left	Toronto, Ont.	65th overall (2012)	NY Islanders	61	6	15	21	36
Ryan Pulock	28	6-2	216	Right	Dauphin, Man.	15th overall (2013)	NY Islanders	82	5	21	26	14
Matias Rajaniemi	21	6-4	201	Left	Lahti, Fin.	183rd overall (2020)	Pelicans/SaiPa (Fin.)	31	0	4	4	12
Alexander Romanov	23	6-1	215	Left	Moscow, Rus.	Trade: Mtl 7/7/22	NY Islanders	76	2	20	22	43
Robin Salo	24	6-2	190	Left	Espoo, Fin.	46th overall (2017)	Bridgeport (AHL)	38	0	14	14	26
Zachary Schulz	18	6-1	195	Left	Ann Arbor, Mich.	177th overall (2023)	USA U18 (NTDP)	52	1	9	10	50

CENTERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Mat Barzal	26	6-1	190	Right	Coquitlam, B.C.	16th overall (2015)	NY Islanders	58	14	37	51	22
Cameron Berg	21	6-0	192	Left	West Fargo, N.D.	125th overall (2021)	Neb.-Omaha (NCHC)	37	10	14	24	38
Casey Cizikas	32	5-11	190	Left	Toronto, Ont.	92nd overall (2009)	NY Islanders	81	6	15	21	54
Justin Gill	20	6-1	187	Left	St. Joseph, Que.	145th overall (2023)	Sherbrooke (QMJHL)	68	44	49	93	41
Bo Horvat	28	6-0	215	Left	London, Ont.	Trade: Van 1/30/23	Vancouver/NY Islanders	79	38	32	70	18
Ruslan Iskhakov	23	5-9	165	Left	Moscow, Rus.	43rd overall (2018)	Bridgeport (AHL)	69	17	34	51	50
Karson Kuhlman	28	5-10	184	Right	Esko, Minn.	Free Agent: signed 7/5/23	Seattle/Winnipeg	47	3	4	7	8
Kyle MacLean	24	6-1	195	Left	Livingston, N.J.	Free Agent: signed 5/19/23	Bridgeport (AHL)	67	11	16	27	81
Danny Nelson	18	6-3	202	Left	St. Louis Park, Minn.	49th overall (2023)	USA U18 (NTDP)	62	21	26	47	52
Brock Nelson	31	6-4	210	Left	Warroad, Minn.	30th overall (2010)	NY Islanders	82	36	39	75	24
Reece Newkirk	22	5-11	185	Left	Moose Jaw, Sask.	147th overall (2019)	Worcester (ECHL)	50	18	18	36	59
Jean-Gabriel Pageau	30	5-11	185	Right	Ottawa, Ont.	Trade: Ott 2/24/20	NY Islanders	70	13	27	40	14
Kyle Palmieri	32	5-11	198	Right	Smithtown, N.Y.	Trade: NJ 4/7/21	NY Islanders	55	16	17	33	24
Brian Pinho	28	6-1	186	Right	Beverly, Mass.	Free Agent: signed 7/5/23	Utica (AHL)	53	10	18	28	14
Jacob Pivonka	23	5-11	198	Left	Olathe, Kan.	103rd overall (2018)	Neb.-Omaha (NCHC)	37	10	8	18	16

LEFT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Arnaud Durandeau	24	6-0	185	Left	Montreal, Que.	165th overall (2017)	Bridgeport (AHL)	68	24	31	55	35
Pierre Engvall	27	6-5	219	Left	Ljungby, Swe.	Trade: Tor 2/28/23	Toronto/NY Islanders	76	17	13	30	31
Quinn Finley	19	5-11	168	Left	Valparaiso, Ind.	78th overall (2022)	Madison/Chicago (USHL)	55	25	40	65	26
Alex Jefferies	21	6-0	195	Right	Framingham, Mass.	121st overall (2020)	Merrimack (HE)	38	14	27	41	16
Ross Johnston	29	6-5	230	Left	Charlottetown, P.E.I.	Free Agent: signed 3/31/15	NY Islanders	16	0	2	2	37
Otto Koivula	25	6-5	225	Left	Nokia, Fin.	120th overall (2016)	Bridgeport (AHL)	46	12	13	25	37
Daylan Kuefler	21	6-2	190	Left	Red Deer, Alta.	174th overall (2022)	Kamloops (WHL)	54	31	30	61	85
Anders Lee	33	6-3	235	Left	Edina, Minn.	152nd overall (2009)	NY Islanders	82	28	22	50	50
Eetu Liukas	21	6-2	198	Left	Turku, Fin.	157th overall (2021)	HPK (Fin.)	58	14	9	23	104
Matt Martin	34	6-3	220	Left	Windsor, Ont.	Trade: Tor 7/3/18	NY Islanders	81	7	12	19	63
Jesse Nurmi	18	5-10	165	Left	Valkeala, Fin.	113th overall (2023)	KooKoo Jr. (Fin.)	41	21	29	50	12

RIGHT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Cal Clutterbuck	35	6-0	212	Right	Welland, Ont.	Trade: Min 6/30/13	NY Islanders	49	6	6	12	30
William Dufour	21	6-2	215	Right	Quebec, Que.	152nd overall (2020)	Bridgeport (AHL)	69	21	27	48	51
Hudson Fasching	28	6-3	204	Right	Apple Valley, Minn.	Free Agent: signed 8/23/22	NY Islanders	49	10	9	19	10
Julien Gauthier	25	6-4	224	Right	Pointe-aux-Trembles, Que.	Free Agent: signed 7/5/23	NY Rangers/Ottawa	57	9	5	14	6
Simon Holmstrom	22	6-2	205	Left	Tranas, Swe.	23rd overall (2019)	NY Islanders	50	6	3	9	0
Alexander Ljungkrantz	21	6-1	179	Left	Gavle, Swe.	90th overall (2020)	Brynas (Swe.)	52	6	5	11	4
Matthew Maggio	20	5-11	185	Right	Windsor, Ont.	142nd overall (2022)	Windsor (OHL)	66	54	57	111	32
Oliver Wahlstrom	23	6-2	204	Right	Portland, Maine	11th overall (2018)	NY Islanders	35	7	9	16	32

NEW YORK RANGERS

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BY **STEVE ZIPAY**

AS A NEW SEASON approaches, the question lingers: did the Rangers improve enough following a disappointing first-round playoff ouster to New Jersey? Two things are clear: team president and GM Chris Drury's major off-season move was hiring coach Peter Laviolette and a new staff to replace Gerard Gallant and crew after two seasons. And on the ice, in a league that is trending younger, the Blueshirts got deeper, but greyer, through free agency. Drury rolled the dice last season with deadline deals for wingers Vladimir Tarasenko and Patrick Kane, but the squad came up empty in Game 7.

Five of the Rangers' seven highest-paid players had no-move clauses, and youngsters K'Andre Miller and Alexis Lafreniere were due raises on their RFA deals. So, to fill holes, Drury added seven free agents in their 30s – including forwards Blake Wheeler, Nick Bonino and Tyler Pitlick, defenseman Erik Gustafsson and goalie Jonathan Quick – on one-year deals. Laviolette's challenge is to mesh the old and new, raise overall intensity and install a better defensive structure.

>OFFENSE

Artemi Panarin (29 goals, 92 points), Mika Zibanejad (39 goals, 91 points), Chris Kreider (36 goals, 54 points) and Vincent Trocheck (64 points) led the way in scoring. Blake Wheeler, who had 55 points with Winnipeg last season and turns 37 in August, should help as a big middle-six right winger. Center Filip Chytil had a breakout year at 23, with 22 goals and 45 points, and he should surpass those marks this season. Barclay Goodrow provided 11 goals and 31 points, mostly as a bottom-six fixture. New

2022-23 NUMBERS

RECORD
47-22-13 (.652)

OVERTIME
6-10

SHOOTOUT
4-3

OVERALL
9th

OFFENSE
3.33 GPG (12th)

DEFENSE
2.63 GAA (4th)

POWER PLAY
24.1% (7th)

PENALTY KILL
81.2% (13th)

CORSI FOR/60
54.65 (23rd)

CORSI AGAINST/60
55.08 (14th)

ICE TIME LEAD (F)
M. Zibanejad (19:58)

ICE TIME LEAD (D)
A. Fox (24:23)

FAST FACTS

COACH
Peter Laviolette

GM
Chris Drury

ARENA
Madison Square Garden

CAPACITY
18,006

AHL AFFILIATE
Hartford Wolf Pack

ECHL AFFILIATE
Cincinnati Cyclones

PLAYOFF RECORD
13-17

PANARIN: SERGEI BELSKI-USA TODAY SPORTS

NEW YORK RANGERS

York must find a way to hasten the development of Lafreniere, 21, and Kaapo Kakko, 22, who had 79 points between them. Nine forwards are over 30, so speed could be an issue as the season rolls on.

>DEFENSE

Crafty Adam Fox, 25, a Norris Trophy finalist who scored 12 goals and dished out 60 assists, is the engine in all situations. Captain Jacob Trouba provided some of the biggest hits the NHL saw last season. Miller, 23, has all the tools but was caught out of position often. A shoulder injury to the shot-blocking, emotional Ryan Lindgren, who missed 16 games in March and April, left a gap. Third-pair righty Braden Schneider, 22, provided some muscle. Fellow 22-year-old Zac Jones, who improved his all-around game in AHL Hartford, and Gustafsson (42 points last season) are also in the mix for third-pairing minutes to start the year.

>GOALTENDING

Igor Shesterkin (37-13-8, .916 SP, 2.48 GAA) couldn't match his Vezina Trophy-winning stats of the season prior, but the Rangers' defense carried a significant share of the blame. Just like predecessor Henrik Lundqvist, the 27-year-old came up clutch in key games, including making 34 saves in Game 6 against the Devils. For all his athleticism, Shesterkin did lose positioning at times, but he remains a top-tier netminder. Quick, who helped the Kings beat the Rangers in the 2014 Stanley Cup final, replaces backup Jaroslav Halak.

>SPECIAL TEAMS

The main players with the man advantage should continue to get the bulk of the ice time, as the Blueshirts ranked seventh on the power play (24.1 percent). Zibanejad, who excels at one-timers from the left circle, produced 20 PP goals and 39 PP points and evolved into a shorthanded force. Panarin, who thinks pass-first on the power play, had 27 man-advantage assists, which was second on the team, behind Fox's 28. Trocheck also had nine goals and Kreider had eight, to go along with his four shorthanded goals. The 13th-ranked PK was streaky. Bonino and Pitlick should complement Goodrow and Jimmy Vesey's efforts up front.

CUP ODDS

23/1

>INTANGIBLES

It's all about chemistry. In exit interviews, some players reportedly were unhappy with the lack of adjustments and ideas from Gallant. Now, how will it work with Laviolette, 58, who has led three teams to the Cup final, and a mix of veterans, new depth and seven or eight 25-and-unders? On paper, Carolina and the Devils are the top teams in the Metro, so the Rangers will need several things to click in order to bridge the gap.

>ROOKIES

With veteran forwards throughout, Brennan Othmann, 20, and Will Cuylle, 21, are long shots. In net, veterans Quick and Louis Domingue are ahead of prospect Dylan Garand, a fourth-round pick in 2020.

>X-FACTOR

Will the team get off to a good start? If so, and if form holds, Drury will add to the roster at the deadline. With additional troops, and if Lafreniere and Kakko take big steps offensively, the team is in line to have a strong playoff run.

>THE BRASS

Laviolette and assistants Phil Housley, Mike Peca and Dan Muse will have players' respect. Drury made the safe choice with Laviolette. He brings a solid track record, although Penguins coach Mike Sullivan was reportedly Drury's No. 1 guy if available. The pressure's on both GM and coach.

DEPTH CHART | 2023-24

LEFT WING	CENTER	RIGHT WING
1. Artemi Panarin	1. Mika Zibanejad	1. Kaapo Kakko
2. Chris Kreider	2. Vincent Trocheck	2. Blake Wheeler
3. Alexis Lafreniere	3. Filip Chytil	3. Barclay Goodrow
4. Jimmy Vesey	4. Nick Bonino	4. Tyler Pitlick
5. Will Cuylle	5. Riley Nash	5. Alex Belzile

DEFENSE		GOALIE
1. Adam Fox	6. Braden Schneider	1. Igor Shesterkin
2. Jacob Trouba	7. Zac Jones	2. Jonathan Quick
3. K'Andre Miller	8. Ben Harpur	3. Louis Domingue
4. Ryan Lindgren	9. Connor Mackey	INJURED
5. Erik Gustafsson	10. Mac Hollowell	INDICATES NEW ARRIVAL

KEY DEPARTURES & UNSIGNED UFAs Patrick Kane, RW; Vladimir Tarasenko, RW; Jaroslav Halak, G; Niko Mikkola, D; Tyler Motte, C; Ryan Carpenter, C; Libor Hajek, D

FOX: DAVID KIROUAC-USA TODAY SPORTS

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FUTURE WATCH

IF YOU WANT BROADWAY talent, you can't do much better than 2023 first-rounder Gabe Perreault, who made a mockery of his competition while playing for the U.S. NTDP. Meanwhile, Brennan Othmann makes the marquee for his crashing physical play, augmented by offense as well. The likes of Adam Sykora, Brett Berard, Drew Fortescue and Noah Laba will make the Rangers harder to play against if they can navigate their development paths to the NHL one day.

TOP 10 PROSPECTS

1. Brennan Othmann, LW
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Peterborough (OHL)
A complete player who delivers shots, passes and hits at top speed. Good forechecker, too.
Acquired 16th overall, 2021 **NHL** '23-24

2. Gabe Perreault, RW
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** USA U18 (NTDP)
NTDP record-setter is son of former NHLer Yanic. He knows importance of both sides of the ice.
Acquired 23rd overall, 2023 **NHL** '25-26

3. Zac Jones, D
Age 22 **2022-23 Team** Hartford (AHL)
Steady AHL production and 38 NHL games under his belt. He could use tightening up defensively.
Acquired 68th overall, 2019 **NHL** '23-24

4. Adam Sykora, LW
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Nitra (Svk.)
Chips in offense, but it's defensively and in the gritty areas where the hardworking winger excels.
Acquired 63rd overall, 2022 **NHL** '26-27

5. Will Cuylle, LW
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** Hartford (AHL)
Wowed with performance as AHL rookie, enough to earn an NHL call. Needs no time to find twine.
Acquired 60th overall, 2020 **NHL** '23-24

6. Bryce McConnell-Barker, C
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Sault Ste. Marie (OHL)
Standout and captain on otherwise poor Soo outfit. Great release and plays in straight lines.
Acquired 97th overall, 2022 **NHL** '26-27

7. Brett Berard, LW
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** Providence (HE)
Quick, crafty winger set to hone pro game in the AHL. Production dipped in last NCAA campaign.
Acquired 134th overall, 2020 **NHL** '25-26

8. Dylan Garand, G
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** Hartford (AHL)
Good side-to-side movement and shot location. Strong AHL playoffs after so-so regular season.
Acquired 103rd overall, 2020 **NHL** '25-26

9. Drew Fortescue, D
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** USA U18 (NTDP)
NTDP product headed to Boston College. He's gifted at moving the puck quickly and accurately.
Acquired 90th overall, 2023 **NHL** '27-28

10. Ryder Korczak, C
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** Moose Jaw (WHL)
Finished junior career and ended season in AHL. Not the prettiest scorer, but he wills pucks in.
Acquired 75th overall, 2021 **NHL** '25-26

SCHEDULE | 2023-24

Thu, Oct 12	@ Buffalo	7:00 PM
Sat, Oct 14	@ Columbus	7:00 PM
Mon, Oct 16	vs Arizona	7:00 PM
Thu, Oct 19	vs Nashville	7:00 PM
Sat, Oct 21	@ Seattle	10:00 PM
Tue, Oct 24	@ Calgary	9:45 PM
Thu, Oct 26	@ Edmonton	9:00 PM
Sat, Oct 28	@ Vancouver	10:00 PM
Mon, Oct 30	@ Winnipeg	7:30 PM
Thu, Nov 2	vs Carolina	7:00 PM
Sat, Nov 4	@ Minnesota	8:00 PM
Tue, Nov 7	vs Detroit	7:30 PM
Thu, Nov 9	vs Minnesota	7:00 PM
Sun, Nov 12	vs Columbus	7:00 PM
Sat, Nov 18	@ New Jersey	7:00 PM
Mon, Nov 20	@ Dallas	8:00 PM
Wed, Nov 22	@ Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Fri, Nov 24	@ Philadelphia	1:00 PM
Sat, Nov 25	vs Boston	1:00 PM
Mon, Nov 27	vs Buffalo	7:00 PM
Wed, Nov 29	vs Detroit	7:30 PM
Sat, Dec 2	@ Nashville	4:00 PM
Sun, Dec 3	vs San Jose	6:00 PM
Tue, Dec 5	@ Ottawa	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 9	@ Washington	7:00 PM
Sun, Dec 10	vs Los Angeles	7:00 PM
Tue, Dec 12	vs Toronto	7:00 PM
Fri, Dec 15	vs Anaheim	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 16	@ Boston	7:00 PM
Tue, Dec 19	@ Toronto	7:00 PM
Fri, Dec 22	vs Edmonton	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 23	vs Buffalo	7:30 PM
Wed, Dec 27	vs Washington	7:00 PM
Fri, Dec 29	@ Florida	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 30	@ Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Tue, Jan 2	vs Carolina	7:00 PM
Thu, Jan 4	vs Chicago	7:00 PM
Sat, Jan 6	@ Montreal	7:00 PM
Mon, Jan 8	vs Vancouver	7:00 PM
Thu, Jan 11	@ St. Louis	8:00 PM
Sat, Jan 13	@ Washington	1:00 PM
Sun, Jan 14	vs Washington	1:00 PM
Tue, Jan 16	vs Seattle	7:00 PM
Thu, Jan 18	@ Vegas	10:00 PM
Sat, Jan 20	@ Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Sun, Jan 21	@ Anaheim	8:30 PM
Tue, Jan 23	@ San Jose	10:30 PM
Fri, Jan 26	vs Vegas	7:00 PM
Sat, Jan 27	@ Ottawa	7:00 PM
Mon, Feb 5	vs Colorado	7:00 PM
Wed, Feb 7	vs Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Fri, Feb 9	@ Chicago	8:30 PM
Mon, Feb 12	vs Calgary	7:00 PM
Thu, Feb 15	vs Montreal	7:00 PM
Sun, Feb 18	@ NY Islanders*	3:00 PM
Tue, Feb 20	vs Dallas	7:00 PM
Thu, Feb 22	@ New Jersey	7:00 PM
Sat, Feb 24	@ Philadelphia	3:00 PM
Sun, Feb 25	@ Columbus	6:00 PM
Wed, Feb 28	vs Columbus	7:00 PM
Sat, Mar 2	@ Toronto	7:00 PM
Mon, Mar 4	vs Florida	7:00 PM
Sat, Mar 9	vs St. Louis	7:30 PM
Mon, Mar 11	vs New Jersey	7:00 PM
Tue, Mar 12	@ Carolina	7:00 PM
Thu, Mar 14	@ Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Sat, Mar 16	@ Pittsburgh	3:00 PM
Sun, Mar 17	vs NY Islanders	1:00 PM
Tue, Mar 19	vs Winnipeg	7:00 PM
Thu, Mar 21	@ Boston	7:00 PM
Sat, Mar 23	vs Florida	8:00 PM
Tue, Mar 26	vs Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Thu, Mar 28	@ Colorado	9:00 PM
Sat, Mar 30	@ Arizona	6:00 PM
Mon, Apr 1	vs Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Wed, Apr 3	vs New Jersey	7:30 PM
Fri, Apr 5	@ Detroit	7:00 PM
Sun, Apr 7	vs Montreal	7:00 PM
Tue, Apr 9	@ NY Islanders	7:00 PM
Thu, Apr 11	vs Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Sat, Apr 13	vs NY Islanders	12:30 PM
Mon, Apqr 15	vs Ottawa	7:30 PM

**Stadium Series*

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ORGANIZATIONAL ROSTER

NEW YORK RANGERS

GOALIES	AGE	HT.	WT.	CATCHES	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	W-L-OT	GAA	SP
Talyn Boyko	20	6-7	208	Left	Drumheller, Alta.	112th overall (2021)	Kelowna (WHL)	40	13-24-1	3.55	.898
Louis Domingue	31	6-3	208	Right	St-Hyacinthe, Que.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Hartford (AHL)	45	22-12-8	2.51	.911
Dylan Garand	21	6-1	172	Left	Victoria, B.C.	103rd overall (2020)	Hartford (AHL)	32	13-14-3	3.01	.894
Olof Lindbom	23	6-1	185	Left	Stockholm, Swe.	39th overall (2018)	Jacksonville (ECHL)	28	17-10-1	3.01	.890
Hugo Ollas	21	6-7	220	Left	Linkoping, Swe.	197th overall (2020)	Merrimack (HE)	21	10-9-0	2.32	.915
Jonathan Quick	37	6-1	220	Left	Milford, Conn.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Los Angeles/Vegas	41	16-15-6	3.41	.882
Igor Shesterkin	27	6-1	189	Left	Moscow, Rus.	118th overall (2014)	NY Rangers	58	37-13-8	2.48	.916

DEFENSEMEN	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Nikolas Brouillard	28	5-10	150	Left	St-Hyacinthe, Que.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	San Diego (AHL)	72	6	33	39	120
Ty Emberson	23	6-1	195	Right	Eau Claire, Wis.	Trade: Ari 7/13/22	Hartford (AHL)	69	7	20	27	27
Drew Fortescue	18	6-1	176	Left	New York, N.Y.	90th overall (2023)	USA U18 (NTDP)	62	1	25	26	34
Adam Fox	25	5-11	182	Right	Jericho, N.Y.	Trade: Car 4/30/19	NY Rangers	82	12	60	72	34
Erik Gustafsson	31	6-0	197	Left	Nynashamn, Swe.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Washington/Toronto	70	7	35	42	23
Ben Harpur	28	6-6	231	Left	Hamilton, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 10/27/22	NY Rangers	42	1	5	6	20
Mac Hollowell	25	5-9	170	Right	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/2/23	Toronto (AHL)	18	0	13	13	8
Zac Jones	22	5-10	178	Left	Richmond, Va.	68th overall (2019)	Hartford (AHL)	54	8	23	31	34
Hank Kempf	21	6-2	190	Left	Wilmette, Ill.	208th overall (2021)	Cornell (ECAC)	31	1	1	2	10
Simon Kjellberg	23	6-3	200	Left	Nashville, Tenn.	163rd overall (2018)	Northern Michigan (CCHA)	32	4	10	14	24
Rasmus Larsson	19	6-3	200	Left	Stockholm, Swe.	152nd overall (2023)	Vasteras Jr. (Swe.)	50	16	18	34	14
Ryan Lindgren	25	6-0	190	Left	Burnsville, Minn.	Trade: Bos 2/25/18	NY Rangers	63	1	17	18	45
Connor Mackey	27	6-2	197	Left	Tower Lake, Ill.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Calgary/Arizona	30	3	4	7	48
Victor Mancini	21	6-3	215	Right	Hancock, Mich.	159th overall (2022)	Neb.-Omaha (NCHC)	32	0	8	8	10
K'Andre Miller	23	6-5	215	Left	St. Paul, Minn.	22nd overall (2018)	NY Rangers	79	9	34	43	47
Matthew Robertson	22	6-3	211	Left	Edmonton, Alta.	49th overall (2019)	Hartford (AHL)	57	5	18	23	36
Brandon Scanlin	24	6-3	223	Left	Hamilton, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 3/19/22	Hartford (AHL)	61	4	11	15	30
Braden Schneider	22	6-3	208	Right	Prince Albert, Sask.	19th overall (2020)	NY Rangers	81	5	13	18	16
Jacob Trouba	29	6-3	203	Right	Rochester, Mich.	Trade: Wpg 6/17/19	NY Rangers	82	8	22	30	63

CENTERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Nick Bonino	35	6-1	195	Left	Hartford, Conn.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	San Jose/Pittsburgh	62	10	9	19	28
Jonny Brodzinski	30	6-0	212	Right	Ham Lake, Minn.	Free Agent: signed 10/9/20	Hartford (AHL)	47	21	27	48	39
Filip Chytil	24	6-2	204	Left	Kromeriz, Cze.	21st overall (2017)	NY Rangers	74	22	23	45	30
Adam Edstrom	22	6-7	220	Left	Karlstad, Swe.	161st overall (2019)	Rogle (Swe.)	42	9	10	19	35
Turner Elson	31	6-0	193	Left	New Westminster, B.C.	Free Agent: signed 7/14/22	Hartford (AHL)	72	17	24	41	38
Barclay Goodrow	30	6-2	204	Left	Toronto, Ont.	Trade: TB 7/17/21	NY Rangers	82	11	20	31	58
Karl Henriksson	22	5-9	179	Left	Malmo, Swe.	58th overall (2019)	Hartford (AHL)	70	7	10	17	20
Zakary Karpa	21	6-2	185	Left	Greenwich, Conn.	191st overall (2022)	Harvard (ECAC)	22	5	3	8	6
Ryder Korczak	21	5-11	171	Right	Yorkton, Sask.	75th overall (2021)	Moose Jaw (WHL)	48	28	41	69	30
Noah Laba	20	6-2	191	Right	Northville, Mich.	111th overall (2022)	Colorado College (NCHC)	35	11	11	22	48
Jake Leschyshyn	24	5-11	195	Left	Raleigh, N.C.	Waivers: Veg 1/11/23	Vegas/NY Rangers	35	0	0	0	8
Bryce McConnell-Barker	19	6-1	199	Left	London, Ont.	97th overall (2022)	Sault Ste. Marie (OHL)	68	30	47	77	16
Riley Nash	34	6-2	188	Right	Consort, Alta.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Charlotte (AHL)	66	24	35	59	37
Tyler Pitlick	31	6-2	200	Right	Minneapolis, Minn.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	St. Louis	61	7	9	16	14
Matt Rempe	21	6-8	240	Right	Calgary, Alta.	165th overall (2020)	Hartford (AHL)	53	6	4	10	87
Dylan Roobroeck	19	6-7	206	Left	London, Ont.	178th overall (2023)	Oshawa (OHL)	68	15	38	53	60
Oliver Tarnstrom	21	6-0	158	Left	Stockholm, Swe.	92nd overall (2020)	Rogle (Swe.)	43	1	2	3	2
Vincent Trocheck	30	5-11	184	Right	Pittsburgh, Pa.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	NY Rangers	82	22	42	64	58
Mika Zibanejad	30	6-2	202	Right	Stockholm, Swe.	Trade: Ott 7/18/16	NY Rangers	82	39	52	91	20

LEFT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Maxim Barbashev	19	6-1	176	Left	Moscow, Rus.	161st overall (2022)	Moncton (QMJHL)	67	32	33	65	51
Brett Berard	21	5-9	155	Left	Providence, R.I.	134th overall (2020)	Providence (HE)	36	10	14	24	35
Anton Blidh	28	6-1	197	Left	Molnlycke, Swe.	Trade: Col 3/3/23	Colorado/Hartford (AHL)	53	13	10	23	58
Will Cuylle	21	6-3	211	Left	Toronto, Ont.	60th overall (2020)	Hartford (AHL)	69	25	20	45	59
Ty Henricks	18	6-5	205	Left	Mission Viejo, Calif.	183rd overall (2023)	Fargo/Muskegon (USHL)	47	9	10	19	14
Chris Kreider	32	6-3	230	Left	Boxford, Mass.	19th overall (2009)	NY Rangers	79	36	18	54	26
Alexis Lafreniere	21	6-1	195	Left	St-Eustache, Que.	1st overall (2020)	NY Rangers	81	16	23	39	33
Brennan Othmann	20	6-0	188	Left	Scarborough, Ont.	16th overall (2021)	Flint/Peterborough (OHL)	56	29	38	67	79
Artemi Panarin	31	6-0	173	Right	Korkino, Rus.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/19	NY Rangers	82	29	63	92	36
Adam Sykora	19	5-10	179	Left	Piestany, Svk.	63rd overall (2022)	Nitra (Svk.)	38	8	13	21	8
Bobby Trivigno	24	5-7	168	Left	Setauket, N.Y.	Free Agent: signed 4/1/22	Hartford (AHL)	57	7	19	26	20
Kalle Vaisanen	20	6-4	178	Right	Kotka, Fin.	106th overall (2021)	TPS (Fin.)	47	4	1	5	8
Jimmy Vesey	30	6-3	202	Left	Boston, Mass.	Free Agent: signed 10/9/22	NY Rangers	81	11	14	25	20

RIGHT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Alex Belzile	32	6-0	196	Right	Riviere-du-Loup, Que.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Montreal	31	6	8	14	13
Jaroslav Chmelar	20	6-4	198	Right	Nove Mesto nad Metuji, Cze.	144th overall (2021)	Providence (HE)	33	7	6	13	26
Eric Ciccolini	22	5-11	170	Right	Vaughan, Ont.	205th oveall (2019)	Michigan (Big Ten)	31	7	4	11	14
Riley Hughes	23	6-1	173	Right	Westwood, Mass.	216th overall (2018)	Northeastern (HE)	32	2	4	6	18
Kaapo Kakko	22	6-2	206	Left	Turku, Fin.	2nd overall (2019)	NY Rangers	82	18	22	40	8
Brody Lamb	20	6-1	165	Right	Rochester, Minn.	104th overall (2021)	Minnesota (Big Ten)	39	4	4	8	4
Lauri Pajuniemi	24	6-0	202	Right	Tampere, Fin.	132nd overall (2018)	Hartford (AHL)	68	19	19	38	32
Gabe Perreault	18	5-11	165	Left	Sherbrooke, Que.	23rd overall (2023)	USA U18 (NTDP)	63	53	79	132	8
Blake Wheeler	37	6-5	220	Right	Plymouth, Minn.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Winnipeg	72	16	39	55	46

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BY **KEN WARREN**

CUE THE BROKEN RECORD. A dismal start doomed the Senators yet again in 2022-23, as the club missed the playoffs for the sixth consecutive season. Alex DeBrincat, who scored 27 goals in his lone season with Ottawa, was traded to Detroit for a package that included Dominik Kubalik and a future first-round pick. Vladimir Tarasenko was brought in on a one-year, $5-million deal to add additional punch on the wing. Joonas Korpisalo was signed to a five-year, $20-million pact in the hopes of a major upgrade from the inconsistent and injury-laden goaltending mess of last season.

The Senators also cemented some depth on defense, re-signing Travis Hamonic, Erik Brannstrom and Jacob Bernard-Docker. That trio will complement the club's top four of Thomas Chabot, Jakob Chychrun, Jake Sanderson and Artem Zub. GM Pierre Dorion and coach D.J. Smith face immediate pressure, with incoming owner Michael Andlauer ready to put his own stamp on the franchise if the team falters early.

>OFFENSE

Tim Stutzle exploded for 39 goals and 90 points last season, while captain Brady Tkachuk (35 goals, 83 points) continued to improve his scoring touch. Linemate Claude Giroux also scored a career-high 35 goals. Kubalik had 20 goals with Detroit, while Tarasenko had 18 across 69 games with St. Louis and the Rangers. The Sens are banking on a bounce-back season from Drake Batherson, who's coming off a subpar 22-goal effort. Shane Pinto had an impressive rookie season, scoring 20 goals while taking over as the second-line center, but the return of a

2022-23 NUMBERS

RECORD
39-35-8 (.524)

OVERTIME
6-7

SHOOTOUT
2-1

OVERALL
21st

OFFENSE
3.16 GPG (18th)

DEFENSE
3.29 GAA (20th)

POWER PLAY
23.5% (8th)

PENALTY KILL
80.1% (14th)

CORSI FOR/60
60.71 (6th)

CORSI AGAINST/60
57.1 (17th)

ICE TIME LEAD (F)
T. Stutzle (21:16)

ICE TIME LEAD (D)
T. Chabot (24:58)

FAST FACTS

COACH
D.J. Smith

GM
Pierre Dorion

ARENA
Canadian Tire Centre

CAPACITY
19,347

AHL AFFILIATE
Belleville Senators

ECHL AFFILIATE
Allen Americans

PLAYOFF RECORD
0-0 (since 2019)

TKACHUK: MARC DESROSIERS-USA TODAY SPORTS

healthy Josh Norris should push Pinto down the lineup and bolster the club's scoring power. On the blueline, Chychrun and Sanderson hold the promise of adding to Chabot's offensive presence.

>DEFENSE

All those years of band-aid solutions could be over. The acquisition of Chychrun from Arizona gives Smith some options. Chychrun could skate on a top pairing with Chabot, while the defensive Zub might be best served as a complement to Sanderson on a shutdown unit. Sanderson averaged 21:55 per game last season and was named to the NHL's all-rookie team. His playing partner, Hamonic, figures to slide down to the third pairing with Brannstrom, who has finally settled in as an NHL regular. Bernard-Docker and hard-hitting rookie Tyler Kleven will be depth options.

>GOALTENDING

The Matt Murray experiment failed. So, too, did the Cam Talbot trial. Now, Dorion is hoping to be third time lucky with Korpisalo, who put his hip injuries behind him late last season, returning from surgery to post solid numbers with Columbus and then Los Angeles. Anton Forsberg, who tore the MCLs in both his left and right knees in February, will push for playing time in what could be a platoon situation.

>SPECIAL TEAMS

The Senators scored 72 power-play goals last season, second in the NHL behind Edmonton. DeBrincat scored 11 of them, and his departure leaves a void. Batherson had 14 PP goals and 29 PP points, while Tkachuk added 11 PP goals. Chabot has been the quarterback for a long while, but that could change with Chychrun and Sanderson taking on bigger roles. The Sens never found replacements for former shorthanded stars Connor Brown and Nick Paul in 2022-23, finishing in the middle of the pack on the PK. Late in the season, Stutzle asserted himself as a shorthanded threat.

>INTANGIBLES

Maturity, or a lack thereof, was an ongoing theme in 2022-23, as the Sens struggled with the emotions of an early-season slump and the hopes of a late-season playoff push. Tkachuk, entering his sixth NHL campaign, has asserted himself as the unquestioned leader. In previous years, Smith has allowed the young players to play their way through mistakes, but patience has its limits, and he'll have a shorter leash this season.

CUP ODDS

40/1

>ROOKIES

Ottawa has high hopes for feisty and versatile forward Ridly Greig, who showcased an excellent scoring touch throughout junior and in 39 games with AHL Belleville last year. The question is whether Greig – who's listed at six-foot, 183 pounds – has the size to play with that edge in the NHL. Kleven, 6-foot-4 and 200 pounds, will eventually become a physical force, but he's expected to start the year in the AHL.

>X-FACTOR

The 2023-24 season opens with five of the first six games – and nine of the first 13 – on home ice, before a two-game trek to Sweden. Another poor start could spell the end for Dorion and Smith in Ottawa.

>THE BRASS

With Andlauer coming in, the changes have already begun. In July, former president of business operations Anthony LeBlanc resigned and assistant GM Trent Mann was fired. Speculation was rampant that former star Daniel Alfredsson could soon return to the organization in a front-office position.

DEPTH CHART | 2023-24

LEFT WING	CENTER	RIGHT WING
1. Brady Tkachuk	1. Tim Stutzle	1. Claude Giroux
2. Dominik Kubalik	2. Josh Norris	2. Drake Batherson
3. Ridly Greig	3. Shane Pinto	3. Vladimir Tarasenko
4. Parker Kelly	4. Mark Kastelic	4. Mathieu Joseph
5. Jiri Smejkal	5. Zack Ostapchuk	5. Zack MacEwen

DEFENSE		GOALIE
1. Jakob Chychrun	6. Travis Hamonic	1. Joonas Korpisalo
2. Thomas Chabot	7. Tyler Kleven	2. Anton Forsberg
3. Jake Sanderson	8. Jacob Bernard-Docker	3. Mads Sogaard
4. Artem Zub	9. Jacob Larsson	INJURED
5. Erik Brannstrom	10. Lassi Thomson	INDICATES NEW ARRIVAL

KEY DEPARTURES & UNSIGNED UFAs Alex DeBrincat, RW; Cam Talbot, G; Patrick Brown, C; Julien Gauthier, RW; Austin Watson, LW; Derick Brassard, C; Nick Holden, D

STUTZLE: MARC DESROSIERS-USA TODAY SPORTS

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FUTURE WATCH

THE MOST EXCITING MEMBERS of the Senators are youngsters, with Jake Sanderson the latest to become an NHL regular. But the pipeline is still ready to spout, and the likes of Ridly Greig and Tyler Kleven – both of whom have already played some NHL games – have a physical style that will make them fan favorites. The Sens didn't pick until the fourth round in 2023 and went with an exciting yet raw talent in defenseman Hoyt Stanley, who is bound for NCAA Cornell.

TOP 10 PROSPECTS

1. Ridly Greig, C
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** Belleville (AHL)
He'll play anywhere and do anything to win. Feisty and hardnosed, Sens fans will love him.
Acquired 28th overall, 2020 **NHL** '23-24

2. Jacob Bernard-Docker, D
Age 23 **2022-23 Team** Belleville (AHL)
Efficient and makes smart plays. Skating has improved, but he gets lost defensively at times.
Acquired 26th overall, 2018 **NHL** '23-24

3. Mads Sogaard, G
Age 22 **2022-23 Team** Belleville (AHL)
Results were subpar when thrust into NHL action. Sens will be patient with the 6-foot-7 monster.
Acquired 37th overall, 2019 **NHL** '24-25

4. Zack Ostapchuk, C
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Winnipeg (WHL)
Coaches love his versatility and heart. He'll throw a hit, take the puck, then drive to the net.
Acquired 39th overall, 2021 **NHL** '25-26

5. Tyler Boucher, RW
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Ottawa (OHL)
Powerful winger's development has been rocky due to injury and move from NCAA to OHL.
Acquired 10th overall, 2021 **NHL** '24-25

6. Tyler Kleven, D
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** North Dakota (NCHC)
Burly blueliner can crunch opponents and blast the puck. Earned a spot with U.S. at worlds.
Acquired 44th overall, 2020 **NHL** '23-24

7. Lassi Thomson, D
Age 23 **2022-23 Team** Belleville (AHL)
Slipped down depth chart last season, but his puck-moving and skating are valuable assets.
Acquired 19th overall, 2019 **NHL** '24-25

8. Egor Sokolov, LW
Age 23 **2022-23 Team** Belleville (AHL)
Steady progression throughout time in AHL has him on big-league radar. He's all size and power.
Acquired 61st overall, 2020 **NHL** '24-25

9. Roby Jarventie, LW
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** Belleville (AHL)
Battled injury but scored at a great pace in AHL. Uses his size and has good offensive instincts.
Acquired 33rd overall, 2020 **NHL** '25-26

10. Maxence Guenette, D
Age 22 **2022-23 Team** Belleville (AHL)
Continues to improve and made NHL debut after a solid AHL campaign. Fourth in line among D.
Acquired 187th overall, 2019 **NHL** '25-26

SCHEDULE | 2023-24

Wed, Oct 11	@ Carolina	7:00 PM
Sat, Oct 14	vs Philadelphia	1:00 PM
Sun, Oct 15	vs Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Wed, Oct 18	vs Washington	7:00 PM
Sat, Oct 21	vs Detroit	1:00 PM
Tue, Oct 24	vs Buffalo	6:45 PM
Thu, Oct 26	@ NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Sat, Oct 28	@ Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Thu, Nov 2	vs Los Angeles	7:00 PM
Sat, Nov 4	vs Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Wed, Nov 8	@ Toronto	7:00 PM
Thu, Nov 9	vs Vancouver	7:00 PM
Sat, Nov 11	vs Calgary	7:00 PM
Thu, Nov 16	vs Detroit*	1:00 PM
Sat, Nov 18	vs Minnesota*	10:00 AM
Fri, Nov 24	vs NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Mon, Nov 27	vs Florida	7:00 PM
Fri, Dec 1	@ Columbus	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 2	vs Seattle	7:00 PM
Tue, Dec 5	Vs NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Thu, Dec 7	vs Toronto	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 9	@ Detroit	7:00 PM
Tue, Dec 12	vs Carolina	7:00 PM
Thu, Dec 14	@ St. Louis	8:00 PM
Fri, Dec 15	@ Dallas	8:00 PM
Sun, Dec 17	@ Vegas	8:00 PM
Tue, Dec 19	@ Arizona	9:00 PM
Thu, Dec 21	@ Colorado	9:00 PM
Sat, Dec 23	vs Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Wed, Dec 27	@ Toronto	7:00 PM
Fri, Dec 29	vs New Jersey	7:00 PM
Sun, Dec 31	vs Buffalo	6:00 PM
Tue, Jan 2	@ Vancouver	10:00 PM
Thu, Jan 4	@ Seattle	10:00 PM
Sat, Jan 6	@ Edmonton	10:00 PM
Tue, Jan 9	@ Calgary	9:00 PM
Thu, Jan 11	@ Buffalo	7:00 PM
Sat, Jan 13	vs San Jose	4:00 PM
Tue, Jan 16	vs Colorado	7:00 PM
Thu, Jan 18	vs Montreal	7:00 PM
Sat, Jan 20	vs Winnipeg	3:00 PM
Sun, Jan 21	@ Philadelphia	1:00 PM
Tue, Jan 23	@ Montreal	7:00 PM
Thu, Jan 25	vs Boston	7:00 PM
Sat, Jan 27	Vs NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Mon, Jan 29	vs Nashville	7:00 PM
Wed, Jan 31	@ Detroit	7:00 PM
Sat, Feb 10	vs Toronto	7:00 PM
Tue, Feb 13	vs Columbus	7:00 PM
Thu, Feb 15	vs Anaheim	7:00 PM
Sat, Feb 17	@ Chicago	3:00 PM
Mon, Feb 19	@ Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Tue, Feb 20	@ Florida	7:00 PM
Thu, Feb 22	vs Dallas	7:00 PM
Sat, Feb 24	vs Vegas	7:00 PM
Mon, Feb 26	@ Washington	7:00 PM
Tue, Feb 27	@ Nashville	8:00 PM
Fri, Mar 1	vs Arizona	7:00 PM
Sat, Mar 2	@ Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Wed, Mar 6	@ Anaheim	10:00 PM
Thu, Mar 7	@ Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Sat, Mar 9	@ San Jose	7:00 PM
Tue, Mar 12	vs Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Thu, Mar 14	@ Columbus	7:00 PM
Sat, Mar 16	@ NY Islanders	12:30 PM
Sun, Mar 17	vs Carolina	6:00 PM
Tue, Mar 19	@ Boston	7:00 PM
Thu, Mar 21	vs St. Louis	7:00 PM
Sat, Mar 23	@ New Jersey	7:00 PM
Sun, Mar 24	vs Edmonton	6:00 PM
Wed, Mar 27	@ Buffalo	7:00 PM
Thu, Mar 28	vs Chicago	7:00 PM
Sat, Mar 30	@ Winnipeg	7:00 PM
Tue, Apr 2	@ Minnesota	8:00 PM
Thu, Apr 4	vs Florida	7:00 PM
Sat, Apr 6	vs New Jersey	7:00 PM
Sun, Apr 7	@ Washington	6:00 PM
Tue, Apr 9	@ Florida	7:00 PM
Thu, Apr 11	@ Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Sat, Apr 13	vs Montreal	7:00 PM
Mon, Apr 15	@ NY Rangers	7:30 PM
Tue, Apr 16	@ Boston	7:00 PM

**Global Series in Sweden*

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GOALIES	AGE	HT.	WT.	CATCHES	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	W-L-OT	GAA	SP
Joonas Korpisalo	29	6-3	193	Left	Pori, Fin.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Columbus/Los Angeles	39	18-14-4	2.87	.915
Anton Forsberg	30	6-3	193	Left	Harnosand, Swe.	Waivers: Wpg 3/17/21	Ottawa	28	11-11-2	3.26	.902
Kevin Mandolese	23	6-4	180	Left	Blainville, Que.	157th overall (2018)	Belleville (AHL)	17	6-8-3	3.33	.890
Leevi Merilainen	21	6-2	158	Left	Oulu, Fin.	71st overall (2020)	Karpat (Fin.)	42	18-13-7	2.02	.918
Vladimir Nikitin	18	6-4	192	Left	Ekibastuz, Kaz.	207th overall (2023)	Astana Jr. (Kaz.)	24	18-6-0	2.07	.921
Kevin Reidler	19	6-5	176	Left	Gavle, Swe.	151st overall (2022)	AIK Jr. (Swe.)	32	14-16-0	2.89	.911
Mads Sogaard	22	6-7	196	Left	Aalborg, Den.	37th overall (2019)	Belleville (AHL)	22	6-10-2	3.47	.893

DEFENSEMEN	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Matthew Andonovski	18	6-2	200	Left	Markham, Ont.	140th overall (2023)	Kitchener (OHL)	67	0	16	16	85
Jacob Bernard-Docker	23	6-0	190	Right	Canmore, Alta.	26th overall (2018)	Belleville (AHL)	41	2	4	6	35
Erik Brannstrom	24	5-10	185	Left	Eksjo, Swe.	Trade: Veg 2/25/19	Ottawa	74	2	16	18	38
Thomas Chabot	26	6-2	195	Left	St-Marie, Que.	18th overall (2015)	Ottawa	68	11	30	41	52
Jakob Chychrun	25	6-2	220	Left	Boca Raton, Fla.	Trade: Ari 3/1/23	Arizona/Ottawa	48	9	24	33	30
Jorian Donovan	19	6-1	182	Left	Calgary, Alta.	136th overall (2022)	Hamilton (OHL)	55	12	33	45	51
Maxence Guenette	22	6-1	181	Right	L'Ancienne-Lorette, Que.	187th overall (2019)	Belleville (AHL)	72	5	35	40	25
Tomas Hamara	19	6-0	185	Left	Prague, Cze.	87th overall (2022)	Kitchener (OHL)	56	2	15	17	33
Travis Hamonic	33	6-1	200	Right	St. Malo, Man.	Trade: Van 3/20/22	Ottawa	75	6	15	21	71
Dillon Heatherington	28	6-4	215	Left	Calgary, Alta.	Free Agent: signed 7/29/21	Belleville (AHL)	60	4	11	15	63
Tyler Kleven	21	6-4	200	Left	Fargo, N.D.	44th overall (2020)	North Dakota (NCHC)	35	8	10	18	84
Jacob Larsson	26	6-2	193	Left	Ljungby, Swe.	Free Agent: signed 7/14/22	Belleville (AHL)	55	4	13	17	51
Nikolas Matinpalo	24	6-3	207	Right	Espoo, Fin.	Free Agent: signed 5/25/23	Assat (Fin.)	51	7	9	16	20
Filip Nordberg	19	6-4	207	Left	Stockholm, Swe.	64th overall (2022)	Sodertalje/Tingsryd (Swe.2)	33	2	4	6	10
Jake Sanderson	21	6-3	195	Left	Whitefish, Mont.	5th overall (2020)	Ottawa	77	4	28	32	12
Donovan Sebrango	21	6-1	194	Left	Ottawa, Ont.	Trade: Det 7/9/23	Grand Rapids (AHL)	39	4	3	7	19
Hoyt Stanley	18	6-2	187	Right	West Vancouver, B.C.	108th overall (2023)	Victoria (BCHL)	53	4	34	38	30
Lassi Thomson	23	6-0	190	Right	Tampere, Fin.	19th overall (2019)	Belleville (AHL)	56	7	26	33	28
Jonny Tychonick	23	6-0	173	Left	Calgary, Alta.	48th overall (2018)	Neb.-Omaha (NCHC)	35	8	18	26	24
Theo Wallberg	19	6-3	187	Left	Stockholm, Swe.	168th overall (2022)	Dubuque (USHL)	60	5	17	22	28
Artem Zub	27	6-2	200	Right	Khabarovsk, Rus.	Free Agent: signed 5/1/20	Ottawa	53	3	7	10	39

CENTERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Matthew Highmore	27	5-11	188	Left	Halifax, N.S.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Springfield (AHL)	68	19	42	61	34
Garrett Pilon	25	6-0	191	Right	Mineola, N.Y.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Hershey (AHL)	53	11	18	29	24
Zack MacEwen	27	6-3	205	Right	Charlottetown, P.E.I.	Free Agent: signed 7/6/23	Philadelphia/Los Angeles	56	4	6	10	66
Owen Beckner	18	6-2	175	Left	Victoria, B.C.	204th overall (2023)	Salmon Arm (BCHL)	53	17	33	50	16
Rourke Chartier	27	5-11	190	Left	Saskatoon, Sask.	Free Agent: signed 7/15/22	Belleville (AHL)	40	20	8	28	0
Philippe Daoust	21	6-0	151	Left	Barrie, Ont.	158th overall (2020)	Belleville (AHL)	9	2	5	7	0
Tyson Dyck	19	6-0	170	Left	Abbotsford, B.C.	206th overall (2022)	UMass (HE)	28	5	4	9	8
Ridly Greig	21	6-0	183	Left	Lethbridge, Alta.	28th overall (2020)	Belleville (AHL)	39	15	14	29	46
Stephen Halliday	21	6-3	213	Left	Ajax, Ont.	104th overall (2022)	Ohio State (Big Ten)	40	9	32	41	19
Mark Kastelic	24	6-3	233	Right	Phoenix, Ariz.	125th overall (2019)	Ottawa	65	7	4	11	102
Josh Norris	24	6-2	195	Left	Oxford, Mich.	Trade: SJ 9/13/18	Ottawa	8	2	1	3	6
Zack Ostapchuk	20	6-3	205	Left	St. Albert, Alta.	39th overall (2021)	Vancouver/Winnipeg (WHL)	55	31	36	67	46
Shane Pinto	22	6-3	201	Right	Franklin Square, N.Y.	32nd overall (2019)	Ottawa	82	20	15	35	18

LEFT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Vitaly Abramov	25	5-10	180	Left	Chelyabinsk, Rus.	Trade: Clb 2/22/19	CSKA Moscow (KHL)	52	11	5	16	20
Angus Crookshank	23	5-10	181	Left	North Vancouver, B.C.	126th overall (2018)	Belleville (AHL)	71	26	21	47	31
Bokondji Imama	27	6-1	221	Left	Montreal, Que.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Tucson (AHL)	50	5	10	15	109
Alex Formenton	24	6-3	195	Left	Barrie, Ont.	47th overall (2017)	Ambri-Piotta (Sui.)	22	10	3	13	74
Roby Jarventie	21	6-2	184	Left	Tampere, Fin.	33rd overall (2020)	Belleville (AHL)	40	16	14	30	38
Oliver Johansson	20	6-0	183	Left	Sundsvall, Swe.	74th overall (2021)	Bjorkloven (Swe.2)	27	6	3	9	6
Parker Kelly	24	6-0	190	Left	Camrose, Alta.	Free Agent: signed 9/19/17	Ottawa	55	1	3	4	37
Dominik Kubalik	28	6-2	190	Left	Plzen, Cze.	Trade: Det 7/9/23	Detroit	81	20	25	45	24
Jakov Novak	24	6-3	202	Left	Windsor, Ont.	188th overall (2018)	Northeastern (HE)	35	8	4	12	26
Cole Reinhardt	23	6-0	200	Left	Calgary, Alta.	181st overall (2020)	Belleville (AHL)	66	11	23	34	91
Jiri Smejkal	26	6-4	209	Left	Ceske Budejovice, Cze.	Free Agent: signed 5/5/23	Oskarshamn (Swe.)	49	23	20	43	30
Egor Sokolov	23	6-3	222	Right	Yekaterinburg, Rus.	61st overall (2020)	Belleville (AHL)	70	21	38	59	72
Tim Stutzle	21	6-0	193	Left	Viersen, Ger.	3rd overall (2020)	Ottawa	78	39	51	90	54
Brady Tkachuk	24	6-4	221	Left	Scottsdale, Ariz.	4th overall (2018)	Ottawa	82	35	48	83	126

RIGHT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Drake Batherson	25	6-3	200	Right	Fort Wayne, Ind.	121st overall (2017)	Ottawa	82	22	40	62	33
Tyler Boucher	20	6-1	205	Right	Scottsdale, Ariz.	10th overall (2021)	Ottawa (OHL)	21	10	7	17	32
Josh Currie	30	5-10	172	Right	Charlottetown, P.E.I.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Magnitogorsk (KHL)	48	3	9	12	4
Claude Giroux	35	5-11	190	Right	Hearst, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Ottawa	82	35	44	79	34
Mathieu Joseph	26	6-1	187	Left	Laval, Que.	Trade: TB 3/20/22	Ottawa	56	3	15	18	36
Luke Loheit	23	6-0	183	Right	Minnetonka, Minn.	194th overall (2018)	Minn.-Duluth (NCHC)	35	8	11	19	53
Cameron O'Neill	19	6-0	182	Right	Odenton, Md.	143rd overall (2022)	Tri-City (USHL)	56	9	18	27	24
Oskar Pettersson	19	6-2	198	Right	Halmstad, Swe.	72nd overall (2022)	Rogle (Swe.)	29	1	1	2	33
Vladimir Tarasenko	31	6-1	228	Left	Yaroslavl, Rus.	Free Agent: signed 7/27/23	St. Louis/NY Rangers	69	18	32	50	8
Nicholas Vantassell	19	6-4	196	Right	Staten Island, N.Y.	215th overall (2023)	Green Bay (USHL)	62	19	18	37	39

PHILADELPHIA FLYERS

TRAVIS KONECNY

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BY **WAYNE FISH**

AFTER TRYING A PARTIAL rebuild for three seasons, the Flyers realized that plan wasn't going to work. So, with no playoff appearances since 2020, the focus has completely shifted to an "overhaul" approach. According to new GM Daniel Briere, who replaced Chuck Fletcher at the end of last season, they're all-in. With the blessing of new president of hockey operations Keith Jones, Briere has already parted ways with two prominent veterans – Ivan Provorov and Kevin Hayes – and more exits are likely on the way.

It's part of a no-disguise youth movement, although Briere did add a couple of UFA vets with the signings of D-man Marc Staal, 36, and 31-year-old winger Garnet Hathaway. While the team was competitive at times last year, the Flyers' main goal was to evaluate talent for the future, an intention clearly stated by coach John Tortorella. The 2023-24 season should be more of the same.

>OFFENSE

With both Sean Couturier (two back operations) and Cam Atkinson (neck surgery) missing all of last season, the Flyers needed players such as Travis Konecny and Owen Tippett to step up. They did just that, with Konecny notching a career-high 31 goals and Tippett posting career bests for goals (27), assists (22) and points (49). On defense, Tony DeAngelo led the way with 11 goals and 42 points…before being bought out in July. Inconsistency plagued the club's goal production, however. The Flyers were blanked six times, and their 220 goals ranked a lowly 29th in the NHL. The Flyers broke in a lot of new, untested players, which partially accounted

2022-23 NUMBERS

RECORD
31-38-13 (.457)

OVERTIME
3-12

SHOOTOUT
2-1

OVERALL
26th

OFFENSE
2.68 GPG (29th)

DEFENSE
3.37 GAA (23rd)

POWER PLAY
15.6% (32nd)

PENALTY KILL
74.7% (26th)

CORSI FOR/60
53.93 (24th)

CORSI AGAINST/60
59.85 (26th)

ICE TIME LEAD (F)
T. Konecny (20:07)

ICE TIME LEAD (D)
I. Provorov (23:01)

FAST FACTS

COACH
John Tortorella

GM
Daniel Briere

ARENA
Wells Fargo Center

CAPACITY
20,306

AHL AFFILIATE
Lehigh Valley Phantoms

ECHL AFFILIATE
Reading Royals

PLAYOFF RECORD
7-6 (since 2019)

KONECNY: BOB FRID-USA TODAY SPORTS

HART: JAMES CAREY LAUDER-USA TODAY SPORTS

for the scoring dip. A year under their belts for Morgan Frost and Noah Cates, plus the returns of Couturier and Atkinson, should enhance the team's scoring stats this season.

>DEFENSE

Losing Ryan Ellis to a career-threatening pelvic-area injury was a huge hit to the Flyers' blueline over the past two seasons. Now, Provorov and DeAngelo are gone, and youngsters such as Cam York are expected to step up and take on bigger roles. Travis Sanheim struggled at times last season and might have been feeling the pressure of an eight-year, $50-million contract. Veteran Rasmus Ristolainen finally started to come around late last season, and Nick Seeler continues to improve. Because of limited offense, the Flyers try to hold scores down and apply forechecking pressure to diminish opponents' scoring chances. Overall, the Flyers allowed 276 goals, which wasn't all that bad in the Eastern Conference.

>GOALTENDING

It's somewhat difficult to get a gauge on starter Carter Hart's career progress because the Flyers' play in front of him has been so mediocre over the past three years. But to have a goals-against average under 3.00 (2.94 last season, to be exact) on a minus-56 team is admirable and bodes well for the future. Backups Felix Sandstrom and Samuel Ersson have shown flashes in limited action.

>SPECIAL TEAMS

Couturier, a former Selke Trophy winner, will be a welcome return to a penalty kill that struggled mightily. Things got so out of sorts that Tortorella experimented with Konecny on the PK. On the power play, James van Riemsdyk's departure will be felt, as he was a prominent fixture in front of the net. The Flyers' PP ranked last in the NHL at a paltry 15.6 percent. Tippett led the team with eight power-play goals, so look for him to be a go-to guy.

>INTANGIBLES

The Flyers haven't had a captain since Claude Giroux was traded. Scott Laughton is the only player left who wore an 'A' last year, and Tortorella does not have a formal leadership group. He believes each player should hold himself accountable. While the team is still a work in progress, Briere has made it known he expects players to be at their competitive best on a nightly basis. How they react to that dictum could determine future roster moves.

CUP ODDS

100/1

>ROOKIES

Tyson Foerster and Emil Andrae came out of July's development camp looking like the prospects with the best chance of making the team. Foerster, a first-round pick in 2020, had three goals and seven points in eight NHL games late last season. Andrae (5-foot-9, 181 pounds) plays much bigger and stronger than his size indicates.

>X-FACTOR

The hopeful return of good health for Couturier and Atkinson remains the No. 1 reason for optimism in Philadelphia. Continued improvement by young players such as Cates, Frost and Tippett is a must. The UFA signings of Staal and Hathaway will provide an experience element left vacant by the exits of Provorov and Hayes.

>THE BRASS

Fletcher and former CEO/governor Dave Scott (retired) have given way to Briere and Jones, with Dan Hilferty taking over for Scott. Tortorella is the right coach for this crucial transition because of his keen eye for talent evaluation. As players, Briere and Jones were known for their high hockey IQs.

DEPTH CHART | 2023-24

LEFT WING	CENTER	RIGHT WING
1. Joel Farabee	1. Sean Couturier	1. Travis Konecny
2. Noah Cates	2. Scott Laughton	2. Cam Atkinson
3. Nicolas Deslauriers	3. Morgan Frost	3. Owen Tippett
4. Garnet Hathaway	4. Ryan Poehling	4. Wade Allison
5. Elliot Desnoyers	5. Tanner Laczynski	5. Tyson Foerster

DEFENSE		GOALIE
1. Cam York	6. Nick Seeler	1. Carter Hart
2. Rasmus Ristolainen	7. Egor Zamula	2. Felix Sandstrom
3. Travis Sanheim	8. Ronnie Attard	3. Samuel Ersson
4. Sean Walker	9. Adam Ginning	INJURED
5. Marc Staal	10. Victor Mete	INDICATES NEW ARRIVAL

KEY DEPARTURES & UNSIGNED UFAs Tony DeAngelo, D; Ivan Provorov, D; James van Riemsdyk, LW; Brendan Lemieux, LW; Justin Braun, D; Jackson Cates, C; Max Willman, C

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FUTURE WATCH

GM DANIEL BRIERE WASTED no time in making his mark, taking the plunge on Russian wunderkind Matvei Michkov with his first-ever pick. The Flyers already had the makings of a future top line thanks to previous selections Cutter Gauthier and Tyson Foerster, so there's a future to look forward to in Philly. Elsewhere in 2023, the Flyers nabbed a two-way defender in Oliver Bonk and goalie Carson Bjarnason. Near-ready defender Helge Grans arrived from L.A. in the Provorov trade.

TOP 10 PROSPECTS

1. Matvei Michkov, RW
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Sochi (KHL)
Scores at will and a deadly weapon on the power play. His KHL contract will delay his NHL debut.
Acquired 7th overall, 2023 **NHL** '26-27

2. Cutter Gauthier, LW
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Boston College (HE)
Total-package prospect is dynamite in transition. Stands to benefit from a second NCAA season.
Acquired 5th overall, 2022 **NHL** '25-26

3. Bobby Brink, RW
Age 22 **2022-23 Team** Lehigh Valley (AHL)
Flyers smart not to rush him to NHL. Good progress for smart winger in AHL rookie season.
Acquired 34th overall, 2019 **NHL** '24-25

4. Tyson Foerster, RW
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** Lehigh Valley (AHL)
Caught fire during seven-point, eight-game NHL stint. There's a middle-six spot waiting for him.
Acquired 23rd overall, 2020 **NHL** '23-24

5. Oliver Bonk, D
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** London (OHL)
Doing little things well is underrated, and that is Bonk's game. His skating needs work.
Acquired 22nd overall, 2023 **NHL** '26-27

6. Emil Andrae, D
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** HV71 (Swe.)
Didn't skip a beat transitioning from SHL to AHL. Really good vision, even better work ethic.
Acquired 54th overall, 2020 **NHL** '24-25

7. Egor Zamula, D
Age 23 **2022-23 Team** Lehigh Valley (AHL)
He's 6-foot-3, but could stand to bulk up. Already 26 NHL games for undrafted free agent.
Acquired Free agent, Sept. 20, 2018 **NHL** '23-24

8. Helge Grans, D
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** Ontario (AHL)
Towering blueliner with excellent reach saw his offensive numbers sag in second AHL season.
Acquired From LA, June 6, 2023 **NHL** '24-25

9. Aleksei Kolosov, G
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** Minsk (KHL)
Putting up good numbers as young No. 1 in KHL. He can dart around the crease and never quits.
Acquired 78th overall, 2021 **NHL** '25-26

10. Devin Kaplan, RW
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Boston U. (HE)
What he lacks in top-end skill he makes up for in willingness to take contact to make plays.
Acquired 69th overall, 2022 **NHL** '26-27

SCHEDULE | 2023-24

Thu, Oct 12	@ Columbus	7:00 PM	Fri, Jan 12	@ Minnesota	8:00 PM
Sat, Oct 14	@ Ottawa	1:00 PM	Sat, Jan 13	@ Winnipeg	7:00 PM
Tue, Oct 17	vs Vancouver	7:00 PM	Mon, Jan 15	@ St. Louis	8:00 PM
Thu, Oct 19	vs Edmonton	7:00 PM	Thu, Jan 18	vs Dallas	7:00 PM
Sat, Oct 21	@ Dallas	8:00 PM	Sat, Jan 20	vs Colorado	1:00 PM
Tue, Oct 24	@ Vegas	11:00 PM	Sun, Jan 21	vs Ottawa	1:00 PM
Thu, Oct 26	vs Minnesota	7:00 PM	Tue, Jan 23	vs Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Sat, Oct 28	vs Anaheim	1:00 PM	Thu, Jan 25	@ Detroit	7:00 PM
Mon, Oct 30	vs Carolina	7:00 PM	Sat, Jan 27	vs Boston	12:30 PM
Wed, Nov 1	vs Buffalo	7:00 PM	Tue, Feb 6	@ Florida	7:00 PM
Fri, Nov 3	@ Buffalo	7:00 PM	Thu, Feb 8	vs Winnipeg	7:00 PM
Sat, Nov 4	vs Los Angeles	7:00 PM	Sat, Feb 10	vs Seattle	7:00 PM
Tue, Nov 7	@ San Jose	10:30 PM	Mon, Feb 12	vs Arizona	7:00 PM
Fri, Nov 10	@ Anaheim	10:00 PM	Thu, Feb 15	@ Toronto	7:00 PM
Sat, Nov 11	@ Los Angeles	10:30 PM	Sat, Feb 17	@ New Jersey*	8:00 PM
Wed, Nov 15	@ Carolina	7:30 PM	Wed, Feb 21	@ Chicago	7:30 PM
Sat, Nov 18	vs Vegas	1:00 PM	Sat, Feb 24	vs NY Rangers	3:00 PM
Sun, Nov 19	vs Columbus	5:30 PM	Sun, Feb 25	@ Pittsburgh	3:30 PM
Wed, Nov 22	@ NY Islanders	7:30 PM	Tue, Feb 27	vs Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Fri, Nov 24	vs NY Rangers	1:00 PM	Fri, Mar 1	@ Washington	7:00 PM
Sat, Nov 25	@ NY Islanders	7:30 PM	Sat, Mar 2	vs Ottawa	7:00 PM
Tue, Nov 28	vs Carolina	7:00 PM	Mon, Mar 4	vs St. Louis	7:00 PM
Thu, Nov 30	vs New Jersey	7:00 PM	Thu, Mar 7	@ Florida	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 2	@ Pittsburgh	7:00 PM	Sat, Mar 9	@ Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Mon, Dec 4	vs Pittsburgh	7:00 PM	Tue, Mar 12	vs San Jose	7:00 PM
Thu, Dec 7	@ Arizona	9:00 PM	Thu, Mar 14	vs Toronto	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 9	@ Colorado	9:00 PM	Sat, Mar 16	@ Boston	7:00 PM
Tue, Dec 12	@ Nashville	8:00 PM	Tue, Mar 19	vs Toronto	7:00 PM
Thu, Dec 14	vs Washington	7:00 PM	Thu, Mar 21	@ Carolina	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 16	vs Detroit	7:00 PM	Sat, Mar 23	vs Boston	1:00 PM
Tue, Dec 19	@ New Jersey	7:00 PM	Sun, Mar 24	vs Florida	6:00 PM
Thu, Dec 21	vs Nashville	7:00 PM	Tue, Mar 26	@ NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Fri, Dec 22	@ Detroit	7:00 PM	Thu, Mar 28	@ Montreal	7:00 PM
Thu, Dec 28	@ Vancouver	10:00 PM	Sat, Mar 30	vs Chicago	7:00 PM
Fri, Dec 29	@ Seattle	10:00 PM	Mon, Apr 1	vs NY Islanders	7:00 PM
Sun, Dec 31	@ Calgary	8:00 PM	Fri, Apr 5	@ Buffalo	7:00 PM
Tue, Jan 2	@ Edmonton	9:00 PM	Sat, Apr 6	@ Columbus	7:00 PM
Thu, Jan 4	vs Columbus	7:00 PM	Tue, Apr 9	@ Montreal	7:00 PM
Sat, Jan 6	vs Calgary	1:00 PM	Thu, Apr 11	@ NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Mon, Jan 8	vs Pittsburgh	7:00 PM	Sat, Apr 13	vs New Jersey	5:00 PM
Wed, Jan 10	vs Montreal	7:00 PM	Tue, Apr 16	vs Washington	7:00 PM

*Stadium Series

MICHKOV: BONDARENKO DMITRY/KHL PHOTO; SANHEIM: JOHN E. SOKOLOWSKI-USA TODAY SPORTS

ORGANIZATIONAL ROSTER

GOALIES	AGE	HT.	WT.	CATCHES	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	W-L-OT	GAA	SP	
Carson Bjarnason	18	6-3	186	Left	Brandon, Man.	51st overall (2023)	Brandon (WHL)	47	21-19-5	3.08	.900	
Samuel Ersson	23	6-2	176	Left	Falun, Swe.	143rd overall (2018)	Lehigh Valley (AHL)	42	24-17-1	2.84	.900	
Ivan Fedotov	26	6-6	191	Left	Lappeenranta, Fin.	188th overall (2015)	CSKA Moscow (KHL)		DNP			
Carter Hart	25	6-2	181	Left	Sherwood Park, Alta.	48th overall (2016)	Philadelphia	55	22-23-10	2.94	.907	
Aleksei Kolosov	21	6-1	185	Left	Minsk, Blr.	78th overall (2021)	Minsk (KHL)	42	13-21-5	2.55	.912	
Cal Petersen	28	6-2	185	Right	Waterloo, Iowa	Trade: LA 6/6/23	Ontario (AHL)	40	16-20-4	2.88	.904	
Felix Sandstrom	26	6-2	191	Left	Gavle, Swe.	70th overall (2015)	Philadelphia	20	3-12-3	3.72	.880	
Matej Tomek	26	6-3	180	Left	Bratislava, Svk.	90th overall (2015)	Litvinov (Cze.)	14	6-5-0	1.81	.931	
Egor Zavragin	18	6-3	183	Left	Novosibirsk, Rus.	87th overall (2023)	Khanty-Mansiysk Jr.	21	11-6-1	2.49	.920	
DEFENSEMEN	**AGE**	**HT.**	**WT.**	**SHOOTS**	**BORN**	**ACQUIRED**	**2022-23**	**GP**	**G**	**A**	**P**	**PIM**
Emil Andrae	21	5-9	181	Left	Vastervik, Swe.	54th overall (2020)	HV71 (Swe.)	51	6	20	26	67
Ronnie Attard	24	6-3	208	Right	White Lake, Mich.	72nd overall (2019)	Lehigh Valley (AHL)	68	12	20	32	41
Louie Belpedio	27	5-11	197	Right	Skokie, Ill.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Lehigh Valley (AHL)	70	8	19	27	81
Oliver Bonk	18	6-2	180	Right	Ottawa, Ont.	22nd overall (2023)	London (OHL)	67	10	30	40	38
Ryan Ellis	32	5-10	180	Right	Hamilton, Ont.	Trade: Nsh 7/17/21	Philadelphia			DNP		
Adam Ginning	23	6-3	196	Left	Linkoping, Swe.	50th overall (2018)	Lehigh Valley (AHL)	68	3	16	19	63
Helge Grans	21	6-4	205	Right	Ljungby, Swe.	Trade: LA 6/6/23	Ontario (AHL)	59	2	7	9	22
Matteo Mann	18	6-5	222	Right	Sackville, N.B.	199th overall (2023)	Chicoutimi (QMJHL)	45	0	5	5	52
Hunter McDonald	21	6-4	205	Left	Fairport, N.Y.	165th overall (2022)	Northeastern (HE)	35	1	13	14	56
Victor Mete	25	5-9	187	Left	Woodbridge, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/5/23	Toronto	11	0	2	2	4
Mason Millman	22	6-1	175	Left	London, Ont.	103rd overall (2019)	Reading (ECHL)	63	8	37	45	37
Ty Murchison	20	6-2	192	Left	Corona, Calif.	158th overall (2021)	Arizona State (NCAA)	36	2	3	5	93
Rasmus Ristolainen	28	6-4	221	Right	Turku, Fin.	Trade: Buf 7/23/21	Philadelphia	74	3	17	20	32
Ethan Samson	20	6-1	180	Right	Delta, B.C.	174th overall (2021)	Prince George (WHL)	60	18	42	60	71
Travis Sanheim	27	6-3	181	Left	Elkhorn, Man.	17th overall (2014)	Philadelphia	81	7	16	23	40
Nick Seeler	30	6-2	201	Left	Eden Prairie, Minn.	Free Agent: signed 7/28/21	Philadelphia	77	4	10	14	56
Carter Sotheran	18	6-3	197	Right	Winnipeg, Man.	135th overall (2023)	Portland (WHL)	68	4	19	23	54
Marc Staal	36	6-4	208	Left	Thunder Bay, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/3/23	Florida	82	3	12	15	43
Sean Walker	28	5-11	195	Right	Keswick, Ont.	Trade: LA 6/6/23	Los Angeles	70	3	10	13	36
Cam York	22	5-11	175	Left	Anaheim, Calif.	14th overall (2019)	Philadelphia	54	2	18	20	18
Egor Zamula	23	6-3	177	Left	Chelyabinsk, Rus.	Free Agent: signed 9/20/18	Lehigh Valley (AHL)	44	1	18	19	14
Brian Zanetti	20	6-2	181	Left	Lugano, Sui.	110th overall (2021)	Peterborough (OHL)	47	5	7	12	27
Will Zmolek	24	6-3	205	Left	Rochester, N.Y.	Free Agent: signed 3/7/23	Bemidji State (CCHA)	36	4	17	21	24
CENTERS	**AGE**	**HT.**	**WT.**	**SHOOTS**	**BORN**	**ACQUIRED**	**2022-23**	**GP**	**G**	**A**	**P**	**PIM**
Jon-Randall Avon	20	6-0	175	Left	Peterborough, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 9/22/21	Peterborough (OHL)	59	29	31	60	28
Denver Barkey	18	5-9	155	Left	Newmarket, Ont.	95th overall (2023)	London (OHL)	61	22	37	59	34
Evan Barratt	24	6-0	188	Left	Bristol, Pa.	Trade: Chi 10/26/22	Reading (ECHL)	46	26	24	50	34
Adam Brooks	27	6-0	179	Left	Winnipeg, Man.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Lehigh Valley (AHL)	54	10	25	35	31
Sean Couturier	30	6-3	211	Left	Phoenix, Ariz.	8th overall (2011)	Philadelphia			DNP		
Morgan Frost	24	5-11	170	Left	Aurora, Ont.	27th overall (2017)	Philadelphia	81	19	27	46	24
Rhett Gardner	27	6-3	210	Left	Moose Jaw, Sask.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Texas (AHL)	71	10	30	40	75
Tanner Laczynski	26	6-1	190	Right	Minooka, Ill.	169th overall (2016)	Philadelphia	32	2	2	4	2
Scott Laughton	29	6-1	190	Left	Oakville, Ont.	20th overall (2012)	Philadelphia	78	18	25	43	50
Ryan MacPherson	18	6-0	176	Left	Windsor, Ont.	172nd overall (2023)	Leamington (GOJHL)	49	25	36	61	20
Cooper Marody	26	6-0	184	Right	Brighton, Mich.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Lehigh Valley (AHL)	47	15	25	40	26
Owen McLaughlin	20	6-0	160	Left	Phoenixville, Pa.	206th overall (2021)	North Dakota (NCHC)	37	2	13	15	10
Jay O'Brien	23	5-11	185	Right	Hingham, Mass.	19th overall (2018)	Boston University (HE)	39	8	24	32	42
Ryan Poehling	24	6-2	196	Left	Lakeville, Minn.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Pittsburgh	53	7	7	14	8
Massimo Rizzo	22	5-10	175	Left	Burnaby, B.C.	Trade: Car 8/9/23	Denver (NCHC)	38	17	29	46	14
Mikhail Vorobyev	26	6-2	194	Left	Ufa, Rus.	104th overall (2015)	St. Petersburg (KHL)	59	13	26	39	26
LEFT WINGERS	**AGE**	**HT.**	**WT.**	**SHOOTS**	**BORN**	**ACQUIRED**	**2022-23**	**GP**	**G**	**A**	**P**	**PIM**
Alex Bump	19	6-0	195	Left	Burnsville, Minn.	133rd overall (2022)	Omaha/Tri-City (USHL)	48	14	25	39	64
Noah Cates	24	6-1	165	Left	Stillwater, Minn.	137th overall (2017)	Philadelphia	82	13	25	38	12
Alex Ciernik	18	5-11	176	Left	Wolfsburg, Ger.	120th overall (2023)	Sodertalje/Vastervik (Swe.2)	25	3	9	12	2
Nicolas Deslauriers	32	6-1	220	Left	LaSalle, Que.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Philadelphia	80	6	6	12	136
Elliot Desnoyers	21	5-11	183	Left	St-Hyacinthe, Que.	135th overall (2020)	Lehigh Valley (AHL)	65	23	21	44	16
Joel Farabee	23	6-0	183	Left	Syracuse, N.Y.	14th overall (2018)	Philadelphia	82	15	24	39	41
Cutter Gauthier	19	6-2	189	Left	Skelleftea, Swe.	5th overall (2022)	Boston College (HE)	32	16	21	37	37
Santeri Sulku	19	6-3	185	Left	Helsinki, Fin.	197th overall (2022)	Modo Jr. (Swe.)			DNP		
RIGHT WINGERS	**AGE**	**HT.**	**WT.**	**SHOOTS**	**BORN**	**ACQUIRED**	**2022-23**	**GP**	**G**	**A**	**P**	**PIM**
Wade Allison	25	6-2	205	Right	Carman, Man.	52nd overall (2016)	Philadelphia	60	9	6	15	36
Cam Atkinson	34	5-8	176	Right	Riverside, Conn.	Trade: Clb 7/24/21	Philadelphia			DNP		
Bobby Brink	22	5-8	166	Right	Minnetonka, Minn.	34th overall (2019)	Lehigh Valley (AHL)	41	12	16	28	15
Bryce Brodzinski	23	6-0	197	Right	Blaine, Minn.	196th overall (2019)	Minnesota (Big Ten)	40	19	12	31	12
Tyson Foerster	21	6-2	194	Right	Alliston, Ont.	23rd overall (2020)	Lehigh Valley (AHL)	66	20	28	48	59
Alexis Gendron	19	5-9	175	Left	Coteau du Lac, Que.	220th overall (2022)	Blain.-Bois./Gatineau (QMJHL)	63	55	26	81	44
Garnet Hathaway	31	6-3	208	Right	Naples, Fla.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Washington/Boston	84	13	9	22	69
Devin Kaplan	19	6-2	199	Right	Bridgewater, N.J.	69th overall (2022)	Boston University (HE)	40	10	13	23	49
Cole Knuble	19	5-10	184	Right	Grand Rapids, Mich.	103rd overall (2023)	Fargo (USHL)	57	30	36	66	46
Travis Konecny	26	5-10	175	Right	London, Ont.	24th overall (2015)	Philadelphia	60	31	30	61	77
Olle Lycksell	24	5-10	163	Left	Oskarshamn, Swe.	168th overall (2017)	Lehigh Valley (AHL)	53	14	31	45	6
Matvei Michkov	18	5-10	172	Left	Perm, Rus.	7th overall (2023)	SKA St. Petersburg/Sochi (KHL)	30	9	11	20	16
Owen Tippett	24	6-1	207	Right	Peterborough, Ont.	Trade: Fla 3/19/22	Philadelphia	77	27	22	49	16
Samu Tuomaala	20	5-10	174	Right	Oulu, Fin.	46th overall (2021)	Peliitat/Kettera (Fin.2)	31	27	21	48	12
Zayde Wisdom	21	5-11	195	Right	Toronto, Ont.	94th overall (2020)	Lehigh Valley (AHL)	45	3	7	10	16

PITTSBURGH PENGUINS

SIDNEY CROSBY

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BY **SHELLY ANDERSON**

ANY TALK OF A rebuild after the Penguins missed the playoffs for the first time since 2005-06 was muted when the team chose to continue with core stars Sidney Crosby, Evgeni Malkin and Kris Letang. And the talk changed completely when the Pens made the splash of the summer by trading for Erik Karlsson.

The move was spearheaded by former Leafs GM Kyle Dubas, who was brought in as president of hockey operations and is also serving as GM. Dubas clearly has the goal of keeping the window open for another long playoff run with the mid-30s core. Prior to adding Karlsson, Dubas improved the Pens' depth, trading for winger Reilly Smith and signing a dozen free agents. He also re-signed starting goalie Tristan Jarry.

>OFFENSE

With the exception of second-line left wing – where Smith figures to replace Jason Zucker – the top six remains intact, anchored by centers Crosby (93 points last season) and Malkin (83 points), with Jake Guentzel, Rickard Rakell and Bryan Rust back (though Guentzel will start the year on injured reserve). The bottom six got a much-needed overhaul after a lack of cohesiveness and offense. Gone are Mikael Granlund, Ryan Poehling, Josh Archibald and Danton Heinen. Drew O'Connor established himself as a full-time NHLer, and he'll be joined by an infusion of free agents, plus returning players, competing for spots on the third and fourth lines. Lars Eller is expected to get a long look at third-line center. The others in the mix are (deep breath): Noel Acciari, Matt Nieto, Alex Nylander, Andreas Johnsson, Vinnie Hinostroza, Rem Pitlick, Joona Koppanen and Radim Zohorna. Vet-

2022-23 NUMBERS

RECORD
40-31-11 (.555)

OVERTIME
8-10

SHOOTOUT
1-1

OVERALL
19th

OFFENSE
3.18 GPG (16th)

DEFENSE
3.21 GAA (19th)

POWER PLAY
21.7% (14th)

PENALTY KILL
79.1% (16th)

CORSI FOR/60
62.95 (5th)

CORSI AGAINST/60
57.78 (19th)

ICE TIME LEAD (F)
S. Crosby (20:09)

ICE TIME LEAD (D)
K. Letang (24:51)

FAST FACTS

COACH
Mike Sullivan

GM
Kyle Dubas

ARENA
PPG Paints Arena

CAPACITY
18,187

AHL AFFILIATE
Wilkes-Barre/ Scranton Penguins

ECHL AFFILIATE
Wheeling Nailers

PLAYOFF RECORD
6-15 (since 2019)

CROSBY: SERGEI BELSKI-USA TODAY SPORTS

PITTSBURGH PENGUINS

MALKIN: NICK TURCHIARO-USA TODAY SPORTS

eran Jeff Carter, whose game deteriorated last season, could be bumped down the depth chart.

>DEFENSE

Karlsson, the reigning Norris winner, posted the first 100-point season by a defenseman in the past 31 years. He joins Masterton Trophy winner Letang, who had 41 points in 64 games, and is still near the top of his game. The combo gives the Pens a 1-2 'D' punch that few, if any, teams can match. Having Karlsson on board will mean the Pens will rely less on Letang, which is a positive for the 36-year-old who's struggled to stay healthy. Letang's former longtime partner, Brian Dumoulin, left in free agency, and Jeff Petry was dealt. Ryan Graves was brought in as a UFA to replace Dumoulin's minutes. Marcus Pettersson is coming off a breakthrough season as a two-way blueliner and will retain his second-pairing spot. P.O. Joseph will need to continue to grow and cut back on mistakes. Will Butcher, signed as a UFA, and Ty Smith, who was stuck in the AHL most of last season, will vie for jobs, as will longtime depth 'D' Chad Ruhwedel.

>GOALTENDING

With Jarry facing free agency and with several goalies on the market, Dubas chose to stick with Jarry and signed him to a five-year, $26.87-million deal, raising some eyebrows. Jarry, 28, has a career 2.65 goals-against average and .914 save percentage, but injuries have held him back, particularly in the playoffs, where he's still an unknown commodity. Casey DeSmith was dealt as part of the Karlsson proceedings, so signees Alex Nedeljkovic and Magnus Hellberg will battle for time.

>SPECIAL TEAMS

Both the power play and penalty kill need to improve. It's a long-running theme that the power play should be better given its firepower. The PP ranked 14th last season and was very inconsistent. Karlsson, who had 27 power-play points last year, will help. Otherwise, it will be the same big names on display: Crosby, Malkin, Letang, Guentzel, Rust and Rakell. The penalty kill, which ranked 16th, should improve with the arrival of several defense-minded free agents.

CUP ODDS

24/1

>INTANGIBLES

The Penguins were often criticized for having an aging roster, but they didn't get appreciably younger, or faster, and it doesn't appear likely they will tweak their system.

>ROOKIES

One of the pitfalls of being in win-now mode for years on end is the organizational depth gets plundered. While there are some younger players in contention for roster spots, the only rookie with a real shot to play regularly is 2019 first-rounder Sam Poulin. Owen Pickering, a 2022 first-round pick, is a year or two away.

>X-FACTOR

Even with Karlsson and what appears to be an upgrade in depth, the Metro is still a minefield. Can the aging core keep up with Carolina, New Jersey and the Rangers and fend off the Islanders and Washington?

>THE BRASS

While coach Mike Sullivan seems to be golden with the team's new ownership – Fenway Sports Group – GM Ron Hextall and former president of hockey operations Brian Burke were jettisoned. Dubas came in as president of hockey operations in June, was later named interim GM, then assumed the permanent GM's role in early August. He brought in his former Toronto mentee, Jason Spezza, as assistant GM. The Penguins will primarily be a reflection of Dubas' vision.

DEPTH CHART | 2023-24

LEFT WING	CENTER	RIGHT WING
1. Jake Guentzel	1. Sidney Crosby	1. Rickard Rakell
2. Reilly Smith	2. Evgeni Malkin	2. Bryan Rust
3. Matt Nieto	3. Lars Eller	3. Noel Acciari
4. Rem Pitlick	4. Drew O'Connor	4. Andreas Johnsson
5. Radim Zohorna	5. Jeff Carter	5. Vinnie Hinostroza

DEFENSE		GOALIE
1. Erik Karlsson	6. Ty Smith	1. Tristan Jarry
2. Kris Letang	7. Will Butcher	2. Alex Nedeljkovic
3. Ryan Graves	8. Chad Ruhwedel	3. Magnus Hellberg
4. Marcus Pettersson	9. Mark Friedman	INJURED
5. P.O. Joseph	10. Taylor Fedun	INDICATES NEW ARRIVAL

KEY DEPARTURES & UNSIGNED UFAs Jason Zucker, LW; Brian Dumoulin, D; Jeff Petry, D; Mikael Granlund, C; Jan Rutta, D; Casey DeSmith, G; Ryan Poehling, C; Josh Archibald, RW; Danton Heinen, LW; Nick Bonino, C; Dmitry Kulikov, D

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FUTURE WATCH

AFTER YEARS OF TREATING the NHL draft like an afterthought, the Penguins are starting to put a pipeline together. Sure, they only made six picks in 2023, but that was the most they've made in five years. Brayden Yager is an ace two-way center, while third-rounder Emil Pieniniemi will be a future shutdown specialist from the blueline. The Pens still don't have any immediate help to draw upon, but with names like Yager and Owen Pickering, there are future options.

TOP 10 PROSPECTS

1. Brayden Yager, C
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Moose Jaw (WHL)
He makes plays in all three zones, but don't expect him to muck it up. That's not his game.
Acquired 14th overall, 2023 **NHL** '25-26

2. Owen Pickering, D
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Swift Current (WHL)
Wants the green light to rush puck up ice. Skates well, which helps him log big minutes in WHL.
Acquired 21st overall, 2022 **NHL** '25-26

3. Sam Poulin, RW
Age 22 **2022-23 Team** W-B/Scranton (AHL)
Two-way talent with offensive upside. Missed most of 2022-23 after taking leave of absence.
Acquired 21st overall, 2019 **NHL** '24-25

4. Filip Lindberg, G
Age 24 **2022-23 Team** W-B/Scranton (AHL)
Heading back to Finland after two seasons in AHL. A starting gig will be boon to development.
Acquired Free agent, July 28, 2021 **NHL** '24-25

5. Joel Blomqvist, G
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** Karpat (Fin.)
Calm and commanding in the blue paint, and stays ahead of the play. More positional than athletic.
Acquired 52nd overall, 2020 **NHL** '25-26

6. Filip Hallander, C
Age 23 **2022-23 Team** W-B/Scranton (AHL)
Bound for Sweden after failing to crack NHL roster. Doesn't sacrifice defense for offense.
Acquired From Tor, July 17, 2021 **NHL** '24-25

7. Sergey Murashov, G
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Loko Yaroslavl Jr. (Rus)
It was just one game, but posting a .947 SP in KHL debut was impressive. Explosive in the crease.
Acquired 118th overall, 2022 **NHL** '27-28

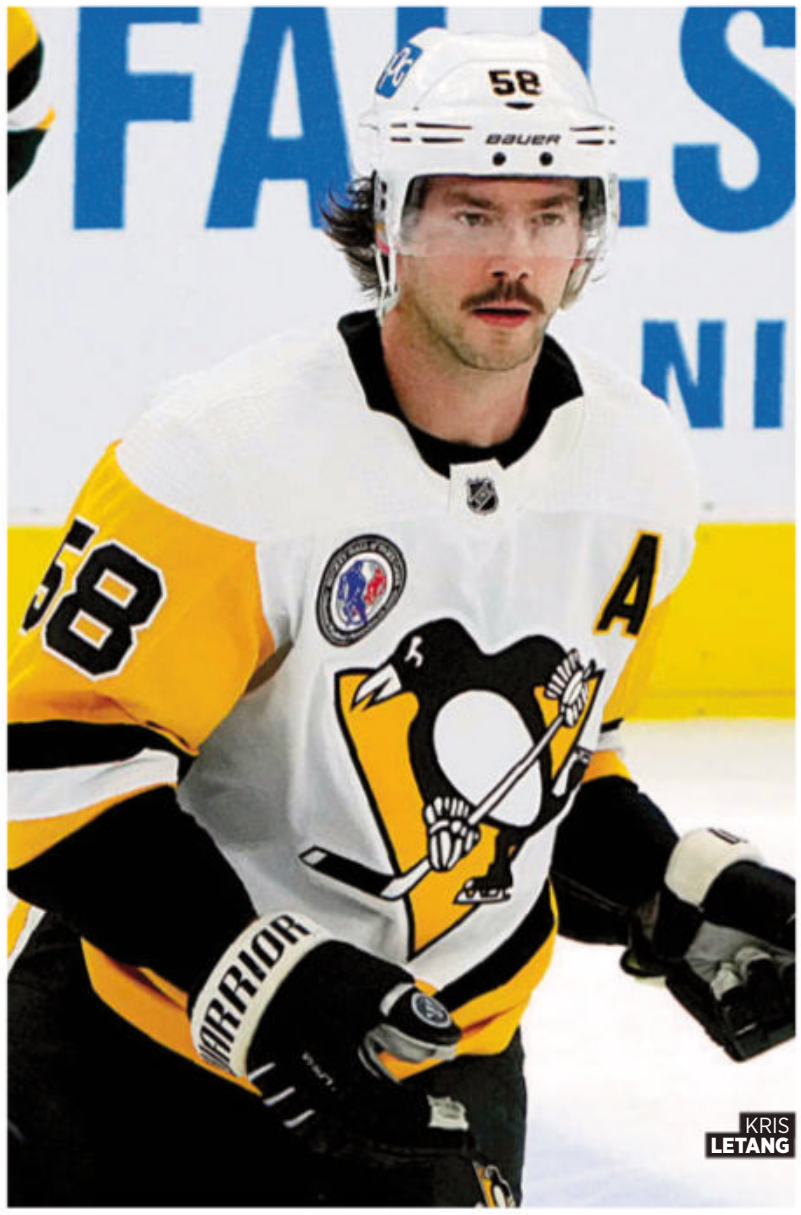
8. Thimo Nickl, D
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** AIK (Swe.)
Plays a conservative, mistake-free game. Adept at using his size and stick to break up plays.
Acquired From Ana, March 31, 2023 **NHL** '26-27

9. Emil Pieniniemi, D
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Karpat Jr. (Fin.)
Helped his junior team to title with sound blueline play and ability to pick offensive spots.
Acquired 91st overall, 2023 **NHL** '28-29

10. Valtteri Puustinen, RW
Age 24 **2022-23 Team** W-B/Scranton (AHL)
Questions aren't about offensive ability but defensive acumen and playing outside top-six role.
Acquired 203rd overall, 2019 **NHL** '24-25

SCHEDULE | 2023-24

Tue, Oct 10	vs Chicago	8:00 PM
Fri, Oct 13	@ Washington	7:00 PM
Sat, Oct 14	vs Calgary	7:00 PM
Wed, Oct 18	@ Detroit	7:30 PM
Sat, Oct 21	@ St. Louis	8:00 PM
Tue, Oct 24	vs Dallas	7:30 PM
Thu, Oct 26	vs Colorado	7:00 PM
Sat, Oct 28	vs Ottawa	7:00 PM
Mon, Oct 30	vs Anaheim	7:00 PM
Sat, Nov 4	@ San Jose	10:00 PM
Tue, Nov 7	@ Anaheim	10:00 PM
Thu, Nov 9	@ Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Sat, Nov 11	vs Buffalo	7:00 PM
Tue, Nov 14	@ Columbus	7:00 PM
Thu, Nov 16	vs New Jersey	7:00 PM
Sat, Nov 18	@ Carolina	7:00 PM
Sun, Nov 19	vs Vegas	6:00 PM
Wed, Nov 22	vs NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Fri, Nov 24	@ Buffalo	6:00 PM
Sat, Nov 25	vs Toronto	7:00 PM
Tue, Nov 28	@ Nashville	8:00 PM
Thu, Nov 30	@ Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 2	vs Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Mon, Dec 4	@ Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Wed, Dec 6	@ Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Fri, Dec 8	@ Florida	7:00 PM
Tue, Dec 12	vs Arizona	7:00 PM
Wed, Dec 13	@ Montreal	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 16	@ Toronto	7:00 PM
Mon, Dec 18	vs Minnesota	7:00 PM
Thu, Dec 21	vs Carolina	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 23	@ Ottawa	7:00 PM
Wed, Dec 27	@ NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Sat, Dec 30	vs St. Louis	7:00 PM
Sun, Dec 31	vs NY Islanders	6:00 PM
Tue, Jan 2	vs Washington	7:00 PM
Thu, Jan 4	@ Boston	7:00 PM
Sat, Jan 6	vs Buffalo	7:00 PM
Mon, Jan 8	@ Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Thu, Jan 11	vs Vancouver	7:00 PM
Sat, Jan 13	@ Carolina	7:00 PM
Mon, Jan 15	vs Seattle	6:00 PM
Sat, Jan 20	@ Vegas	10:00 PM
Mon, Jan 22	@ Arizona	9:00 PM
Fri, Jan 26	vs Florida	7:00 PM
Sat, Jan 27	vs Montreal	7:00 PM
Tue, Feb 6	vs Winnipeg	7:00 PM
Fri, Feb 9	@ Minnesota	8:00 PM
Sat, Feb 10	@ Winnipeg	7:00 PM
Wed, Feb 14	vs Florida	7:30 PM
Thu, Feb 15	@ Chicago	8:30 PM
Sun, Feb 18	vs Los Angeles	6:00 PM
Tue, Feb 20	vs NY Islanders	7:00 PM
Thu, Feb 22	vs Montreal	7:00 PM
Sun, Feb 25	vs Philadelphia	3:30 PM
Tue, Feb 27	@ Vancouver	10:00 PM
Thu, Feb 29	@ Seattle	10:00 PM
Sat, Mar 2	@ Calgary	10:00 PM
Sun, Mar 3	@ Edmonton	9:00 PM
Tue, Mar 5	vs Columbus	7:00 PM
Thu, Mar 7	vs Washington	7:00 PM
Sat, Mar 9	@ Boston	3:00 PM
Sun, Mar 10	vs Edmonton	1:00 PM
Tue, Mar 12	@ Ottawa	7:00 PM
Thu, Mar 14	vs San Jose	7:00 PM
Sat, Mar 16	vs NY Rangers	3:00 PM
Sun, Mar 17	vs Detroit	6:00 PM
Tue, Mar 19	@ New Jersey	7:00 PM
Fri, Mar 22	@ Dallas	8:00 PM
Sun, Mar 24	@ Colorado	2:00 PM
Tue, Mar 26	vs Carolina	7:00 PM
Thu, Mar 28	vs Columbus	7:00 PM
Sat, Mar 30	@ Columbus	7:00 PM
Mon, Apr 1	@ NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Tue, Apr 2	@ New Jersey	7:00 PM
Thu, Apr 4	@ Washington	7:00 PM
Sat, Apr 6	vs Tampa Bay	1:00 PM
Mon, Apr 8	@ Toronto	7:00 PM
Thu, Apr 11	vs Detroit	7:00 PM
Sat, Apr 13	vs Boston	8:00 PM
Mon, Apr 15	vs Nashville	7:00 PM
Wed, Apr 17	@ NY Islanders	7:00 PM



YAGER: NICK PETTIGREW/MOOSE JAW WARRIORS; LETANG: NICK TURCHIARO-USA TODAY SPORTS

ORGANIZATIONAL ROSTER

GOALIES	AGE	HT.	WT.	CATCHES	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	W-L-OT	GAA	SP
Joel Blomqvist	21	6-2	183	Left	Uusikaarlepyy, Fin.	52nd overall (2020)	Karpat (Fin.)	21	6-5-8	2.29	.907
Taylor Gauthier	22	6-1	195	Right	Calgary, Alta.	Free Agent: signed 3/1/22	WB/Scranton (AHL)	20	8-3-6	2.71	.907
Magnus Hellberg	32	6-6	220	Left	Uppsala, Swe.	Free Agent: signed 7/2/23	Ottawa/Detroit	18	5-8-1	3.20	.888
Tristan Jarry	28	6-2	194	Left	Surrey, B.C.	44th overall (2013)	Pittsburgh	47	24-13-7	2.90	.909
Filip Lindberg	24	6-0	180	Left	Espoo, Fin.	Free Agent: signed 7/28/21	WB/Scranton (AHL)	19	6-11-1	3.13	.896
Sergey Murashov	19	6-0	167	Right	Yaroslavl, Rus.	118th overall (2022)	Loko-76/Loko Jr. (Rus.)	42	26-9-6	1.58	.946
Alex Nedeljkovic	27	6-0	208	Left	Parma, Ohio	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Grand Rapids (AHL)	26	13-9-3	2.71	.912

DEFENSEMEN	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Isaac Belliveau	20	6-2	185	Left	Fleurimont, Que.	154th overall (2021)	Gatineau (QMJHL)	55	11	35	46	52
Will Butcher	28	5-10	195	Left	Sun Prairie, Wis.	Free Agent: signed 7/3/23	Texas (AHL)	65	6	37	43	16
Nolan Collins	19	6-3	194	Right	Whitby, Ont.	167th overall (2022)	Sudbury (OHL)	63	8	22	30	52
Taylor Fedun	35	6-1	200	Right	Edmonton, Alta.	Free Agent: signed 7/28/21	WB/Scranton (AHL)	58	3	8	11	22
Mark Friedman	27	5-11	185	Right	Toronto, Ont.	Waivers: Phi 2/24/21	WB/Scranton (AHL)	24	1	5	6	19
Ryan Graves	28	6-5	220	Left	Yarmouth, N.S.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	New Jersey	78	8	18	26	28
P.O. Joseph	24	6-2	185	Left	Laval, Que.	Trade: Ari 6/29/19	Pittsburgh	75	5	16	21	44
Kalle Kangas	18	6-4	205	Left	Vantaa, Fin.	223rd overall (2023)	Jokerit Jr. (Fin.)	42	1	8	9	40
Erik Karlsson	33	6-0	190	Right	Landsbro, Swe.	Trade: SJ 8/6/23	San Jose	82	25	76	101	36
Daniel Laatsch	21	6-5	182	Left	Altoona, Pa.	215th overall (2021)	Wisconsin (Big Ten)	36	1	6	7	6
Kris Letang	36	6-0	201	Right	Montreal, Que.	62nd overall (2005)	Pittsburgh	64	12	29	41	30
Joseph Masonius	26	6-0	190	Left	Long Branch, N.J.	181st overall (2016)	Kalamazoo/Fort Wayne (ECHL)	63	4	9	13	171
Thimo Nickl	21	6-2	176	Right	Klagenfurt, Aut.	Trade: Ana 3/31/23	AIK (Swe.2)	47	0	8	8	69
Xavier Ouellet	30	6-0	197	Left	Bayonne, Fra.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	WB/Scranton (AHL)	29	2	15	17	21
Marcus Pettersson	27	6-3	177	Left	Skelleftea, Swe.	Trade: Ana 12/3/18	Pittsburgh	68	1	23	24	58
Owen Pickering	19	6-3	179	Left	St. Adolphe, Man.	21st overall (2022)	Swift Current (WHL)	61	9	36	45	30
Emil Pieniniemi	18	6-2	170	Left	Kuopio, Fin.	91st overall (2023)	Karpat Jr. (Fin.)	31	1	12	13	18
Chad Ruhwedel	33	5-11	191	Right	San Diego, Calif.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/16	Pittsburgh	47	1	4	5	18
Ryan Shea	26	6-2	200	Left	Milton, Mass.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Texas (AHL)	70	7	21	28	36
Ty Smith	23	5-11	180	Left	Lloydminster, Alta.	Trade: NJ 7/16/22	WB/Scranton (AHL)	39	7	17	24	20
Jack St. Ivany	24	6-3	198	Right	Manhattan Beach, Calif.	Free Agent: signed 8/20/22	WB/Scranton (AHL)	63	0	8	8	33

CENTERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Noel Acciari	31	5-10	209	Right	Johnston, R.I.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	St. Louis/Toronto	77	14	9	23	21
Tristan Broz	20	6-0	178	Left	River Falls, Wis.	58th overall (2021)	Denver (NCHC)	40	10	18	28	35
Jeff Carter	38	6-3	219	Right	London, Ont.	Trade; LA 4/12/21	Pittsburgh	79	13	16	29	30
Sidney Crosby	36	5-11	200	Left	Cole Harbour, N.S.	1st overall (2005)	Pittsburgh	82	33	60	93	52
Luke Devlin	19	6-2	185	Left	Memphis, Tenn.	182nd overall (2022)	West Kelowna (BCHL)	51	11	26	37	27
Lars Eller	34	6-2	205	Left	Rodovre, Den.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Washington/Colorado	84	10	13	23	46
Cooper Foster	18	5-11	172	Left	Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.	174th overall (2023)	Ottawa (OHL)	63	19	17	36	38
Jordan Frasca	22	6-2	190	Left	Brampton, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 3/1/22	Wheeling (ECHL)	36	7	5	12	8
Ty Glover	23	6-3	200	Left	Salford, Gbr.	Free Agent: signed 3/29/22	WB/Scranton (AHL)	49	7	5	12	15
Jonathan Gruden	23	6-0	172	Left	Rochester Hills, Mich.	Trade: Ott 10/7/20	WB/Scranton (AHL)	54	16	15	31	54
Filip Hallander	23	6-1	190	Left	Sundsvall, Swe.	Trade: Tor 7/17/21	WB/Scranton (AHL)	43	11	22	33	20
Vinnie Hinostroza	29	5-10	183	Right	Chicago, Ill.	Free Agent: signed 7/7/23	Buffalo	26	2	9	11	6
Evgeni Malkin	37	6-3	195	Left	Magnitogorsk, Rus.	2nd overall (2004)	Pittsburgh	82	27	56	83	82
Rem Pitlick	26	5-11	186	Left	Ottawa, Ont.	Trade: Mtl 8/6/23	Montreal	46	6	9	15	22
Zam Plante	19	5-9	161	Left	Mannheim, Ger.	150th overall (2022)	Chicago/Fargo (USHL)	51	12	21	33	2
Lukas Svejkovsky	21	5-10	165	Right	Tampa Bay, Fla	108th overall (2020)	WB/Scranton (AHL)	47	3	12	15	8
Kirill Tankov	21	6-1	180	Left	Yurga, Rus.	218th overall (2021)	SKA-Neva St. Pete. (Rus.2)	1	0	0	0	0
Brayden Yager	18	5-11	166	Right	Saskatoon, Sask.	14th overall (2023)	Moose Jaw (WHL)	67	28	50	78	14
Chase Yoder	21	5-10	176	Left	Fairview, Texas	170th overall (2020)	Providence (HE)	37	8	7	15	14

LEFT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Jake Guentzel	28	5-11	180	Left	Omaha, Neb.	77th overall (2013)	Pittsburgh	78	36	37	73	46
Dillon Hamaliuk	22	6-3	190	Left	Leduc, Alta.	Trade: SJ 8/6/23	Wichita (ECHL)	6	4	3	7	34
Emil Jarventie	18	5-10	167	Left	Vantaa, Fin.	217th overall (2023)	Ilves Jr. (Fin.)	21	8	11	19	18
Andreas Johnsson	28	5-10	195	Left	Gavle, Swe.	Free Agent: signed 7/7/23	Utica (AHL)	36	9	21	30	42
Joona Koppanen	25	6-5	216	Left	Tampere, Fin.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Providence (AHL)	64	12	23	35	26
Matt Nieto	30	5-11	187	Left	Long Beach, Calif.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	San Jose/Colorado	81	12	12	24	16
Alex Nylander	25	6-1	192	Right	Calgary, Alta.	Trade: Chi 1/5/22	WB/Scranton (AHL)	55	25	25	50	8
Drew O'Connor	25	6-3	200	Left	Chatham, N.J.	Free Agent: signed 3/10/20	Pittsburgh	46	5	6	11	12
Radim Zohorna	27	6-6	220	Left	Havlickuv Brod, Cze.	Free Agent: signed 7/2/23	Calgary/Toronto (AHL)	51	12	22	34	43

RIGHT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Corey Andonovski	24	6-1	195	Right	Uxbridge, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 3/10/22	WB/Scranton (AHL)	62	8	11	19	66
Raivis Ansons	21	6-1	191	Left	Riga, Lat.	149th overall (2020)	WB/Scranton (AHL)	44	2	4	6	27
Kasper Bjorkqvist	26	6-1	198	Left	Espoo, Fin.	61st overall (2016)	Karpat (Fin.)	36	5	5	10	37
Mikhail Ilyin	18	6-0	181	Left	Cherepovets, Rus.	142nd overall (2023)	Cherepovets Jr. (Rus.)	28	4	22	26	10
Marc Johnstone	27	6-0	181	Right	Cranford, N.J.	Free Agent: signed 7/2/23	Toronto (AHL)	69	9	13	22	39
Sam Poulin	22	6-1	208	Left	Blainville, Que.	21st overall (2019)	WB/Scranton (AHL)	15	4	0	4	6
Valtteri Puustinen	24	5-9	183	Right	Kuopio, Fin.	203rd overall (2019)	WB/Scranton (AHL)	72	24	35	59	22
Rickard Rakell	30	6-1	195	Right	Sundbyberg, Swe.	Trade: Ana 3/21/22	Pittsburgh	82	28	32	60	16
Bryan Rust	31	5-11	192	Right	Pontiac, Mich.	80th overall (2010)	Pittsburgh	81	20	26	46	31
Reilly Smith	32	6-1	185	Left	Mimico, Ont.	Trade: Veg 6/28/23	Vegas	78	26	30	56	16

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BY **LOU KORAC**

ST. LOUIS' SUMMER WAS longer than usual this year, after the Blues missed the playoffs for the first time in five years. The Blues, who, in 2019, won the franchise's first Stanley Cup, went 37-38-7 and failed to qualify from the Western Conference for the first time since 2017-18, the year before they won it all.

GM Doug Armstrong has insisted the team will retool rather than rebuild in an attempt to remain competitive, but he made minimal changes to a roster that will start a season without Vladimir Tarasenko for the first time since 2011 and without Ryan O'Reilly for the first time since 2017. Each was dealt near the 2023 deadline.

St. Louis acquired 31-year-old veteran right winger Kevin Hayes from Philadelphia prior to the draft with the hopes of having a deep forward group, and the Blues didn't lose any key players who were on the roster at the end of last season. Assistant coaches Mike Van Ryn and Craig MacTavish were let go, however.

>OFFENSE

Jordan Kyrou scored a career-high 37 goals to go along with 73 points. His eight-year, $65-million contract extension kicks in this season, matching the pact signed by Robert Thomas, whose numbers took a dip to 65 points (18 goals) after a career-high 77 points in 2021-22. Pavel Buchnevich, with 26 goals and 67 points in 63 games, averaged over a point per game. Brayden Schenn's 65 points were his most since his first season with the Blues in 2017-18, when he posted a career-high 70 points. Veteran defenseman Justin Faulk set career highs with 39 assists and 50 points.

2022-23 NUMBERS

RECORD
37-38-7 (.494)

OVERTIME
7-4

SHOOTOUT
3-3

OVERALL
23rd

OFFENSE
3.17 GPG (17th)

DEFENSE
3.63 GAA (27th)

POWER PLAY
19.3 (22nd)

PENALTY KILL
72.4 (30th)

CORSI FOR/60
49.92 (28th)

CORSI AGAINST/60
58.92 (22nd)

ICE TIME LEAD (F)
P. Buchnevich (19:27)

ICE TIME LEAD (D)
J. Faulk (23:23)

FAST FACTS

COACH
Craig Berube

GM
Doug Armstrong

ARENA
Enterprise Center

CAPACITY
18,096

AHL AFFILIATE
Springfield Thunderbirds

ECHL AFFILIATE
N/A

PLAYOFF RECORD
24-24 (since 2019)

BINNINGTON: JAMES CAREY LAUDER-USA TODAY SPORTS

ST. LOUIS BLUES

KYROU: SERGEI BELSKI-USA TODAY SPORTS

>DEFENSE

The Blues gave up 298 goals last season (3.63 per game), which ranked 27th in the league. That's the most they've allowed since surrendering 316 goals in 1983-84, which is a big reason why assistant coach Mike Weber was hired from AHL Rochester. It was reported that St. Louis tried to send Torey Krug to the Flyers prior to the draft, but Krug wouldn't waive his no-trade clause, so the Blues are projected to head into the season with their top four of Faulk, Krug, Colton Parayko and Nick Leddy intact. Marco Scandella is expected to be healthy to start the season. Robert Bortuzzo and Calle Rosen provide veteran depth, while Scott Perunovich and Tyler Tucker each signed one-way contracts expecting to play bigger roles.

>GOALTENDING

Jordan Binnington, whose goals-against average had gone up and save percentage has gone down in each of his five seasons, will not have a veteran goalie as his backup. Rookie Joel Hofer is expected to step into his first full NHL campaign. The 23-year-old is 4-2-1 with a 3.18 GAA and .900 SP in limited duty at the NHL level.

>SPECIAL TEAMS

After being the only team in 2021-22 to rank in the top five on both the power play and penalty kill, those numbers dropped significantly and led to the Blues' fall from 109 points in '21-22 to just 81 last year. St. Louis fell to 22nd on the power play (19.3 percent) and plunged to 30th on the PK (72.4 percent). Hayes will help out each unit, and the guidance of Weber, behind an NHL bench for the first time, should revamp a porous PK.

>INTANGIBLES

The Blues are still a veteran team, but it's clear they're heading into a youth movement with Kyrou and Thomas, who are now the club's highest-paid players and each gaining more responsibilities. But they still have Schenn, who could be the next captain, as well as Parayko, Faulk, Krug, Leddy, Buchnevich and Brandon Saad for veteran leadership. Jakub Vrana and Kasperi Kapanen are entering the final seasons of their respective contracts and are in prove-it years. Hayes is known as a dressing-room favorite.

CUP ODDS

44/1

>ROOKIES

Hofer is set to become the full-time backup to Binnington and earn his stripes after being selected in the fourth round of the 2018 draft. Will center Zachary Bolduc, the 17th overall pick in 2021, finally crack the roster in training camp and see his first NHL action? Bolduc had 50 goals and 110 points for the QMJHL- and Memorial Cup-champion Quebec Remparts. Can Perunovich, who has played 19 regular-season games since being drafted in 2018, stay healthy enough to be effective?

>X-FACTOR

The Blues are going to score, but their defense needs a major overhaul, and if anyone is going to lead the charge, it's got to be Parayko. The 30-year-old was a career-worst minus-19 in 79 games last season. If the Blues are to return to any kind of defensive respectability, the 6-foot-6, 228-pound righty has to be at the forefront of it.

>THE BRASS

Armstrong, entering his 14th season as GM and 11th as president of hockey operations, continues to get the go-ahead from ownership, led by Tom Stillman, to spend to the salary-cap ceiling, but missing the playoffs for a second straight season won't go over well even with Armstrong's success. Coach Craig Berube goes into his fifth full season behind the bench with two years remaining on his contract.

DEPTH CHART | 2023-24

LEFT WING	CENTER	RIGHT WING
1. Pavel Buchnevich	1. Robert Thomas	1. Jordan Kyrou
2. Brandon Saad	2. Brayden Schenn	2. Kasperi Kapanen
3. Jakub Vrana	3. Kevin Hayes	3. Sammy Blais
4. Jake Neighbours	4. Nathan Walker	4. Alexey Toropchenko
5. Mackenzie MacEachern	5. Nikita Alexandrov	5. Oskar Sundqvist

DEFENSE		GOALIE
1. Colton Parayko	6. Robert Bortuzzo	1. Jordan Binnington
2. Justin Faulk	7. Scott Perunovich	2. Joel Hofer
3. Torey Krug	8. Tyler Tucker	3. Vadim Zherenko
4. Nick Leddy	9. Calle Rosen	INJURED
5. Marco Scandella	10. Matthew Kessel	INDICATES NEW ARRIVAL

KEY DEPARTURES & UNSIGNED UFAs Thomas Greiss, G; Tyler Pitlick, C; Josh Leivo, LW; Logan Brown, C; Steven Santini, D

DALIBOR **DVORSKY**

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FUTURE WATCH

GIVEN THE RELATIVE YOUTH of Robert Thomas and Jordan Kyrou, St. Louis won't go through a typical rebuild. But the Blues did gather three first-rounders in 2023, and they grabbed a ton of potential, led by the smart and competitive Dalibor Dvorsky. With 2022 first-rounder Jimmy Snuggerud instantly becoming one of the top scorers in NCAA hockey, the Blues' pipeline got super-charged quickly. And Jake Neighbours has already played a bunch of NHL games.

TOP 10 PROSPECTS

1. Dalibor Dvorsky, C
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** AIK (Swe.2)
His numbers belie his skill set and say nothing about his best quality: a strong 200-foot game.
Acquired 10th overall, 2023 **NHL** '25-26

2. Jimmy Snuggerud, RW
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Minnesota (Big Ten)
Big scoring winger might be ready earlier than expected. Among Team USA's top players at WJC.
Acquired 23rd overall, 2022 **NHL** '25-26

3. Otto Stenberg, C
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Frolunda Jr. (Swe.)
He can hammer the puck and led Sweden in scoring at U-18s. He's had fits and starts elsewhere.
Acquired 25th overall, 2023 **NHL** '26-27

4. Zachary Bolduc, C
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Quebec (QMJHL)
A leading scorer in the 'Q,' he's primed for AHL test. Can make defenders and goalies look foolish.
Acquired 17th overall, 2021 **NHL** '24-25

5. Scott Perunovich, D
Age 25 **2022-23 Team** Springfield (AHL)
World Championship performance showed he can hang at top level. Injuries keep piling up.
Acquired 45th overall, 2018 **NHL** '23-24

6. Zach Dean, C, 20
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Gatineau (QMJHL)
Versatile center has developed from first-line scorer into a more complete do-it-all player.
Acquired From Veg, Feb. 26, 2023 **NHL** '24-25

7. Joel Hofer, G
Age 23 **2022-23 Team** Springfield (AHL)
AHL playoffs were a letdown after great season. He's NHL-ready and will battle for a Blues gig.
Acquired 107th overall, 2018 **NHL** '23-24

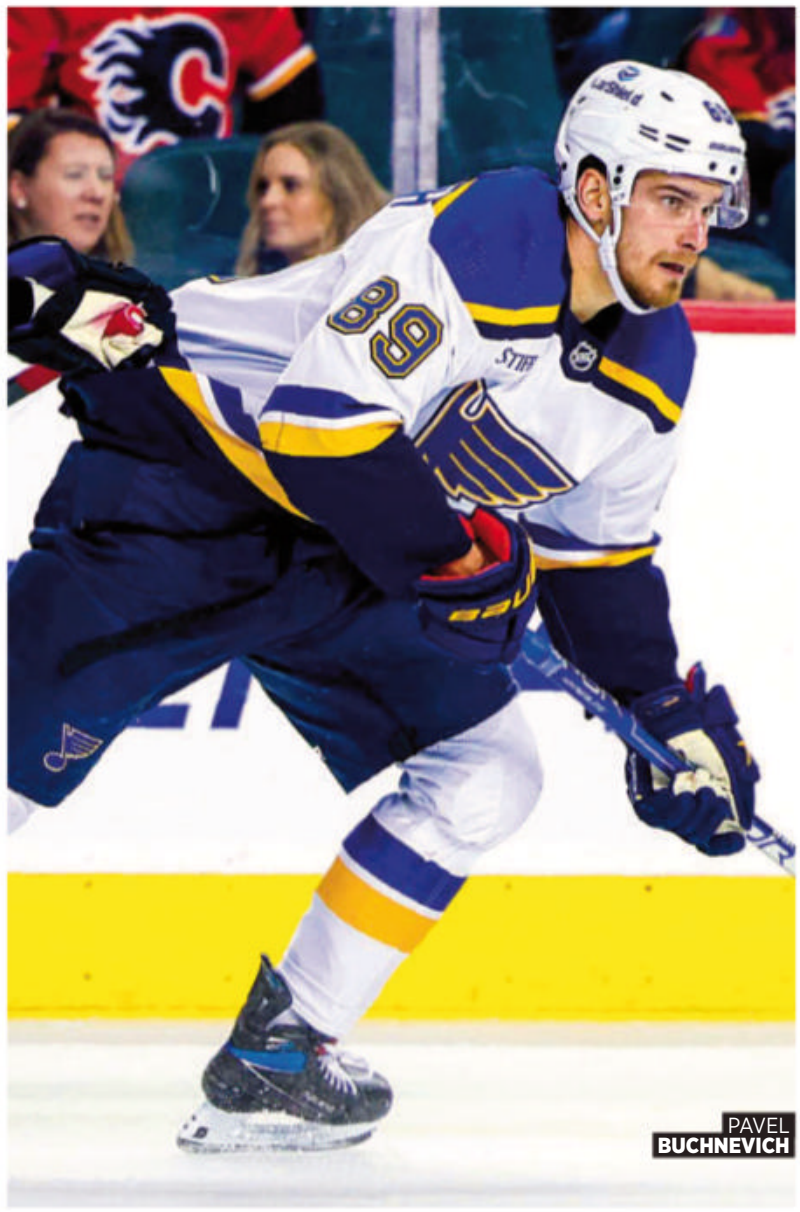
8. Theo Lindstein, D
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Brynas (Swe.)
His skating and simple game help him log major minutes. He's a high-floor, low-ceiling player.
Acquired 29th overall, 2023 **NHL** '27-28

9. Leo Loof, D
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** Ilves (Fin.)
Physical defender continues to exceed expectations. Makes a good first pass. Bound for AHL.
Acquired 88th overall, 2020 **NHL** '25-26

10. Aleksanteri Kaskimaki, C
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** HIFK (Fin.)
Relies on skating and quick hands to create opportunities. Getting valuable reps in Finland.
Acquired 73rd overall, 2022 **NHL** '26-27

SCHEDULE | 2023-24

Thu, Oct 12	@ Dallas	8:00 PM
Sat, Oct 14	vs Seattle	8:00 PM
Thu, Oct 19	vs Arizona	8:00 PM
Sat, Oct 21	vs Pittsburgh	8:00 PM
Tue, Oct 24	@ Winnipeg	8:45 PM
Thu, Oct 26	@ Calgary	9:00 PM
Fri, Oct 27	@ Vancouver	10:00 PM
Wed, Nov 1	@ Colorado	9:30 PM
Fri, Nov 3	vs New Jersey	8:00 PM
Sat, Nov 4	vs Montreal	7:00 PM
Tue, Nov 7	vs Winnipeg	8:00 PM
Thu, Nov 9	vs Arizona	8:00 PM
Sat, Nov 11	@ Colorado	9:00 PM
Tue, Nov 14	vs Tampa Bay	8:00 PM
Thu, Nov 16	@ San Jose	10:30 PM
Sat, Nov 18	@ Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Sun, Nov 19	@ Anaheim	8:00 PM
Wed, Nov 22	@ Arizona	9:00 PM
Fri, Nov 24	vs Nashville	3:00 PM
Sun, Nov 26	@ Chicago	2:00 PM
Tue, Nov 28	@ Minnesota	8:00 PM
Thu, Nov 30	vs Buffalo	8:00 PM
Sat, Dec 2	@ Arizona	9:00 PM
Mon, Dec 4	@ Vegas	10:00 PM
Wed, Dec 6	vs Vegas	9:00 PM
Fri, Dec 8	@ Columbus	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 9	@ Chicago	8:00 PM
Tue, Dec 12	vs Detroit	8:00 PM
Thu, Dec 14	vs Ottawa	8:00 PM
Sat, Dec 16	vs Dallas	8:00 PM
Tue, Dec 19	@ Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Thu, Dec 21	@ Florida	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 23	vs Chicago	8:00 PM
Wed, Dec 27	vs Dallas	8:00 PM
Fri, Dec 29	vs Colorado	8:00 PM
Sat, Dec 30	@ Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Thu, Jan 4	vs Vancouver	8:00 PM
Sat, Jan 6	@ Carolina	7:00 PM
Tue, Jan 9	vs Florida	8:00 PM
Thu, Jan 11	vs NY Rangers	8:00 PM
Sat, Jan 13	vs Boston	8:00 PM
Mon, Jan 15	vs Philadelphia	8:00 PM
Thu, Jan 18	@ Washington	7:00 PM
Sat, Jan 20	vs Washington	8:00 PM
Tue, Jan 23	@ Calgary	9:00 PM
Wed, Jan 24	@ Vancouver	10:00 PM
Fri, Jan 26	@ Seattle	10:00 PM
Sun, Jan 28	vs Los Angeles	2:00 PM
Tue, Jan 30	vs Columbus	8:00 PM
Sat, Feb 10	@ Buffalo	1:00 PM
Sun, Feb 11	@ Montreal	1:00 PM
Tue, Feb 13	@ Toronto	7:00 PM
Thu, Feb 15	vs Edmonton	8:00 PM
Sat, Feb 17	vs Nashville	5:00 PM
Mon, Feb 19	vs Toronto	1:00 PM
Thu, Feb 22	vs NY Islanders	8:00 PM
Sat, Feb 24	@ Detroit	7:00 PM
Tue, Feb 27	@ Winnipeg	8:00 PM
Wed, Feb 28	@ Edmonton	8:30 PM
Sat, Mar 2	vs Minnesota	8:00 PM
Mon, Mar 4	@ Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Tue, Mar 5	@ NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Thu, Mar 7	@ New Jersey	7:00 PM
Sat, Mar 9	@ NY Rangers	7:30 PM
Mon, Mar 11	@ Boston	7:00 PM
Wed, Mar 13	vs Los Angeles	7:30 PM
Sat, Mar 16	vs Minnesota	8:00 PM
Sun, Mar 17	vs Anaheim	7:00 PM
Tue, Mar 19	vs Colorado	8:00 PM
Thu, Mar 21	@ Ottawa	7:00 PM
Sat, Mar 23	@ Minnesota	3:00 PM
Mon, Mar 25	vs Vegas	8:00 PM
Thu, Mar 28	vs Calgary	8:00 PM
Sat, Mar 30	vs San Jose	8:00 PM
Mon, Apr 1	vs Edmonton	9:00 PM
Thu, Apr 4	@ Nashville	8:00 PM
Sat, Apr 6	@ San Jose	6:00 PM
Sun, Apr 7	@ Anaheim	8:00 PM
Wed, Apr 10	vs Chicago	8:00 PM
Fri, Apr 12	vs Carolina	8:00 PM
Sun, Apr 14	vs Seattle	1:00 PM
Wed, Apr 17	@ Dallas	9:30 PM



PAVEL **BUCHNEVICH**

DVORSKY: GABRIEL M GUSTAFSON/AIK HOCKEY; BUCHNEVICH: SERGEI BELSKI-USA TODAY SPORTS

ORGANIZATIONAL ROSTER

GOALIES	AGE	HT.	WT.	CATCHES	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	W-L-OT	GAA	SP
Jordan Binnington	30	6-2	172	Left	Richmond Hill, Ont.	88th overall (2011)	St. Louis	61	27-27-6	3.31	.894
Will Cranley	21	6-4	185	Left	Peterborough, Ont.	163rd overall (2020)	Flint (OHL)	44	18-18-5	3.87	.884
Colten Ellis	22	6-1	185	Left	Whycocomagh, N.S.	93rd overall (2019)	Tulsa (ECHL)	27	12-9-5	3.46	.888
Joel Hofer	23	6-5	179	Left	Winnipeg, Man.	107th overall (2018)	Springfield (AHL)	47	27-15-5	2.50	.921
Malcolm Subban	29	6-2	215	Left	Toronto, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Rochester (AHL)	39	20-14-5	2.94	.903
Vadim Zherenko	22	6-2	176	Left	Moscow, Rus.	208th overall (2019)	Springfield (AHL)	25	10-9-3	3.14	.913

DEFENSEMEN	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Noah Beck	22	6-4	184	Left	Richmond Hill, Ont.	194th overall (2020)	Clarkson (ECAC)	37	6	17	23	18
Jeremie Biakabutuka	21	6-4	198	Right	Longueil, Que.	Free Agent: signed 7/19/23	Charlottetown (QMJHL)	56	17	25	42	53
Robert Bortuzzo	34	6-4	216	Right	Thunder Bay, Ont.	Trade: Pit 3/2/15	St. Louis	43	2	3	5	29
Michael Buchinger	19	5-11	178	Left	Markham, Ont.	88th overall (2022)	Guelph (OHL)	61	15	52	67	62
Quinton Burns	18	6-1	180	Left	Smith Falls, Ont.	74th overall (2023)	Kingston (OHL)	54	2	27	29	106
Justin Faulk	31	6-0	214	Right	South St. Paul, Minn.	Trade: Car 9/24/19	St. Louis	82	11	39	50	34
Paul Fischer	18	6-1	195	Left	Chicago, Ill.	138th overall (2023)	USA U18 (NTDP)	56	4	17	21	14
Marc-Andre Gaudet	19	6-3	180	Left	Moncton, N.B.	152nd overall (2022)	Chicoutimi/Sherbrooke (QMJHL)	66	15	46	61	31
Josh Jacobs	27	6-2	200	Right	Shelby Township, Mich.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Colorado (AHL)	43	4	6	10	18
Wyatt Kalynuk	26	6-1	180	Left	Brandon, Man.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Abbotsford/Hartford (AHL)	61	4	15	19	86
Matthew Kessel	23	6-2	205	Right	Phoenix, Ariz.	150th overall (2020)	Springfield (AHL)	71	5	28	33	66
Arseni Koromyslov	19	6-3	180	Left	Zelenograd, Rus.	120th overall (2022)	St. Petersburg (KHL)	29	0	2	2	4
Torey Krug	32	5-9	194	Left	Livonia, Mich.	Free Agent: signed 10/9/20	St. Louis	63	7	25	32	49
Nick Leddy	32	6-0	205	Left	Eden Prairie, Minn.	Trade: Det 3/21/22	St. Louis	78	2	21	23	20
Theo Lindstein	18	6-1	180	Left	Gavle, Swe.	29th overall (2023)	Brynas (Swe.)	32	1	1	2	0
Leo Loof	21	6-2	176	Left	Karlstad, Swe.	88th overall (2020)	Ilves (Fin.)	55	4	12	16	28
Anton Malmstrom	23	6-4	200	Left	Osternhaninge, Swe.	Free Agent: signed 3/6/23	Bowling Green State (CCHA)	33	3	3	6	16
Matthew Mayich	18	6-2	187	Left	Hamilton, Ont.	170th overall (2023)	Ottawa (OHL)	64	5	17	22	56
Colton Parayko	30	6-6	228	Right	St. Albert, Alta.	86th overall (2012)	St. Louis	79	4	23	27	30
Scott Perunovich	25	5-10	175	Left	Hibbing, Minn.	45th overall (2018)	Springfield (AHL)	22	2	18	20	12
Calle Rosen	29	6-1	188	Left	Vaxjo, Swe.	Free Agent: signed 7/30/21	St. Louis	49	8	10	18	8
Marco Scandella	33	6-3	212	Left	Montreal, Que.	Trade: Mtl 2/18/20	St. Louis	20	1	1	2	6
Hunter Skinner	22	6-3	205	Right	Wyandotte, Mich.	Trade: NYR 2/9/23	Hartford/Springfield (AHL)	23	0	8	8	19
Tyler Tucker	23	6-1	204	Left	Thunder Bay, Ont.	200th overall (2018)	Springfield (AHL)	41	3	18	21	79

CENTERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Mikhail Abramov	22	5-11	170	Left	Moscow, Rus.	Trade: Tor 2/17/23	Toronto/Springfield (AHL)	55	11	13	24	6
Nikita Alexandrov	23	6-1	177	Left	Burgwedel, Ger.	62nd overall (2019)	Springfield (AHL)	41	19	19	38	18
William Bitten	25	5-11	180	Right	Ottawa, Ont.	Trade: Min 12/29/21	Springfield (AHL)	65	22	23	45	36
Zachary Bolduc	20	6-0	187	Left	Trois-Rivieres, Que.	17th overall (2021)	Quebec (QMJHL)	61	50	60	110	50
Zach Dean	20	6-0	176	Left	Grande Prairie, Alta.	Trade: Veg 2/26/23	Gatineau (QMJHL)	50	33	37	70	53
Tanner Dickinson	21	6-0	169	Left	Perrysburg, Ohio	119th overall (2020)	Springfield (AHL)			DNP		
Dalibor Dvorsky	18	6-1	201	Left	Zvolen, Svk.	10th overall (2023)	AIK (Swe.2)	38	6	8	14	16
Adam Gaudette	26	6-1	194	Right	Braintree, Mass.	Trade: Tor 2/17/23	Toronto/Springfield (AHL)	65	27	24	51	57
Andre Heim	25	6-2	183	Left	Zurich, Sui.	Free Agent: signed 5/8/23	Ambri-Piotta (Sui.)	42	12	19	31	8
Aleksanteri Kaskimaki	19	5-11	181	Left	Espoo, Fin.	73rd overall (2022)	HIFK (Fin.)	41	3	4	7	4
Jordan Kyrou	25	6-1	196	Right	Toronto, Ont.	35th overall (2016)	St. Louis	79	37	36	73	22
Matthew Peca	30	5-10	181	Left	Petawawa, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/29/21	Springfield (AHL)	38	9	26	35	4
Dylan Peterson	21	6-4	192	Right	Roseville, Calif.	86th overall (2020)	Boston University (HE)	39	5	13	18	26
Brayden Schenn	32	6-1	199	Left	Saskatoon, Sask.	Trade: Phi 6/23/17	St. Louis	82	21	44	65	50
Jakub Stancl	18	6-3	201	Left	Prague, Cze.	106th overall (2023)	Vaxjo Jr. (Swe.)	35	11	6	17	8
Otto Stenberg	18	5-11	180	Left	Stenungsund, Swe.	25th overall (2023)	Frolunda Jr. (Swe.)	29	11	15	26	53
Oskar Sundqvist	29	6-3	220	Right	Boden, Swe.	Free Agent: signed 7/12/23	Detroit/Minnesota	67	10	18	28	28
Robert Thomas	24	6-0	218	Right	Aurora, Ont.	20th overall (2017)	St. Louis	73	18	47	65	22
Keean Washkurak	22	5-10	188	Left	Waterloo, Ont.	155th overall (2019)	Springfield (AHL)	45	10	3	13	34

LEFT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Sammy Blais	27	6-2	206	Left	Montmagny, Que.	Trade: NYR 2/9/23	NY Rangers/St. Louis	71	9	16	25	30
Pavel Buchnevich	28	6-1	196	Left	Cherepovets, Rus.	Trade: NYR 7/23/21	St. Louis	63	26	41	67	36
Mackenzie MacEachern	29	6-2	193	Left	Bloomfield Hills, Mich.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Chicago (AHL)	37	11	19	30	12
Hugh McGing	25	5-8	176	Left	Chicago, Ill.	138th overall (2018)	Springfield (AHL)	71	17	22	39	66
Jake Neighbours	21	6-0	201	Left	Calgary, Alta.	26th overall (2020)	St. Louis	43	6	4	10	24
Juraj Pekarcik	18	6-1	183	Left	Trstena, Svk.	76th overall (2023)	Nitra (Svk.)	30	0	3	3	27
Brandon Saad	30	6-1	215	Left	Pittsburgh, Pa.	Free Agent: signed 7/29/21	St. Louis	71	19	18	37	12
Jakub Vrana	27	6-0	190	Left	Prague, Cze.	Trade: Det 3/3/23	Detroit/St. Louis	25	11	5	16	10
Nathan Walker	29	5-9	187	Left	Cardiff, Gbr.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/19	St. Louis	56	2	8	10	25

RIGHT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Kevin Hayes	31	6-5	216	Left	Dorchester, Mass.	Trade: Phi 6/27/23	Philadelphia	81	18	36	54	23
Kasperi Kapanen	27	6-1	194	Right	Kuopio, Fin.	Waivers: Pit 2/25/23	Pittsburgh/St. Louis	66	15	19	34	18
Mathias Laferriere	23	6-2	188	Right	Montreal, Que.	169th overall (2018)	Springfield (AHL)	50	9	17	26	22
Simon Robertsson	20	6-0	190	Left	Pitea, Swe.	71st overall (2021)	Skelleftea (Swe.)	16	5	2	7	0
Landon Sim	19	5-10	166	Left	New Glasgow, N.S.	184th overall (2022)	London (OHL)	56	14	7	21	66
Jimmy Snuggerud	19	6-1	186	Right	Minneapolis, Minn.	23rd overall (2022)	Minnesota (Big Ten)	40	21	29	50	42
Nikita Susuyev	18	6-0	172	Left	Ussuriysk, Rus.	202nd overall (2023)	Spartak Moscow Jr. (Rus.)	38	11	17	28	34
Alexey Toropchenko	24	6-6	222	Left	Moscow, Rus.	113th overall (2017)	St. Louis	69	10	9	19	12
Ivan Vorobyov	21	5-11	156	Right	Surgut, Rus.	198th overall (2021)	Penza/Kurgan (Rus.2)	39	6	20	26	20

SAN JOSE SHARKS

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BY **CURTIS PASHELKA**

SAN JOSE FINISHED LAST season with a 22-44-16 record for a .366 points percentage – the franchise's worst since 1995-96. So, have the Sharks totally bottomed out, or is there yet another long, losing season looming on the horizon?

At the very least, it will be difficult for the Sharks to end a playoff drought that's now reached four years as GM Mike Grier keeps his eye on the long term. Still, he and coach David Quinn – both in their second seasons with the team – want to see progress from one year to the next. Grier says "there's more work to come," and while the post-season is unrealistic this year, the goal is for the Sharks to play a fast-paced, in-your-face style while laying the foundation for future success.

>OFFENSE

Led by Erik Karlsson's 101 points, San Jose went from 32nd in the NHL in 5-on-5 scoring in 2021-22 to 18th last season. But Karlsson is gone after being dealt to Pittsburgh in August. That move, which followed Timo Meier being traded to New Jersey in February, leaves Tomas Hertl and Logan Couture to lead the offense. Anthony Duclair – who came over in a summer swap with Florida – and Alexander Barabanov both figure to play in the top six. The Sharks need more from Kevin Labanc, Oskar Lindblom and Fabian Zetterlund. Filip Zadina gets a fresh start, while skilled rookies William Eklund and Thomas Bordeleau, among others, will be given opportunities.

>DEFENSE

Keeping the puck out of their own net was the Sharks' biggest issue last season, as they ranked 30th in 5-on-

2022-23 NUMBERS

RECORD
22-44-16 (.366)

OVERTIME
5-10

SHOOTOUT
1-6

OVERALL
29th

OFFENSE
2.84 GPG (25th)

DEFENSE
3.84 GAA (30th)

POWER PLAY
18.4% (25th)

PENALTY KILL
82.4% (8th)

CORSI FOR/60
55.75 (21st)

CORSI AGAINST/60
58.95 (24th)

ICE TIME LEAD (F)
T. Hertl (19:17)

ICE TIME LEAD (D)
E. Karlsson (25:37)

FAST FACTS

COACH
David Quinn

GM
Mike Grier

ARENA
SAP Center

CAPACITY
17,562

AHL AFFILIATE
San Jose Barracuda

ECHL AFFILIATE
Wichita Thunder

PLAYOFF RECORD
10-10 (since 2019)

COUTURE: JOHN E. SOKOLOWSKI-USA TODAY SPORTS

SAN JOSE SHARKS

TOMAS HERTL

5 goals against. With that in mind, Quinn said in early July there "will be some tweaks to how we play" and that structurally, the Sharks "might alter a few things." Beyond the loss of Karlsson – which is, needless to say, a huge loss – the defense corps will look mostly the same. Marc-Edouard Vlasic, Mario Ferraro, Radim Simek, Matt Benning, Nikolai Knyzhov and Jacob MacDonald are all set to return, with Jan Rutta coming in via the Karlsson trade and Kyle Burroughs added in free agency. Blueline prospects Henry Thrun, Nikita Okhotiuk and Shakir Mukhamadullin are on the cusp, but they likely require more seasoning before they break through and become full-time NHL players.

>GOALTENDING

The Sharks had a league-worst .881 save percentage with a tandem of James Reimer and Kaapo Kahkonen. Reimer is gone, but Kahkonen returns, and he'll be joined by Mackenzie Blackwood, who is coming off of a pair of injury-plagued seasons in New Jersey. The Sharks are hopeful that if Blackwood can stay healthy, he can recapture the form he showed in his first two NHL seasons, when he sported a .916 save pecentage in 70 games with the Devils.

>SPECIAL TEAMS

The Sharks' power play hasn't been in the NHL's top half since 2018-19, when Joe Pavelski and Joe Thornton were on the roster. Now, the top unit will likely feature Couture, Hertl, Barabanov, Duclair or Mike Hoffman and a defenseman to be determined, with no obvious candidates to take over the quarterback role. The Sharks' penalty kill has been one of their strengths the past two years, but some key personnel will have to be replaced after the departures of penalty-killing forwards Nick Bonino, Steven Lorentz and Matt Nieto. All of the Sharks' top penalty-killing defensemen are back, though, in Ferraro, Vlasic and Benning.

>INTANGIBLES

The Sharks feel they've started to establish a new culture under Grier and Quinn, and last season's team did not have any chemistry issues, despite the numerous losses. Still, the Sharks weren't difficult to play against, particularly at SAP Center, where they won just eight of 41 games. Wanting the Sharks to have a certain identity, Grier added some grit in Burroughs and Givani Smith, as well as some size throughout the organization.

CUP ODDS

130/1

>ROOKIES

The Sharks let their rookies mature in the AHL for most of last season, but the youngsters will now be given a chance to crack the NHL roster. Expect Eklund to make the team out of camp if he's healthy. Bordeleau, too, will be given a chance to remain with the team on a full-time basis. Thrun is the most NHL-ready rookie defenseman.

>X-FACTOR

The Sharks need more consistent goaltending before they can start to think about having an improved record. Can Blackwood, who has incorporated yoga and Pilates into his off-season training regimen, stay healthy? And can Kahkonen continue the improvement he showed in the second half of last season?

>THE BRASS

Grier continues to put his stamp on San Jose: of the 40 players who dressed for at least one Sharks game in 2021-22, just 11 remain. And unlike some of his initial trades (Brent Burns, Adin Hill), Grier showed patience with Karlsson and only moved the three-time Norris Trophy winner when he felt the deal was right for the rebuilding Sharks.

DEPTH CHART | 2023-24

LEFT WING	CENTER	RIGHT WING
1. Anthony Duclair	1. Tomas Hertl	1. Alexander Barabanov
2. Mike Hoffman	2. Logan Couture	2. Kevin Labanc
3. William Eklund	3. Mikael Granlund	3. Filip Zadina
4. Jacob Peterson	4. Nico Sturm	4. Luke Kunin
5. Oskar Lindblom	5. Thomas Bordeleau	5. Fabian Zetterlund

DEFENSE		GOALIE
1. Mario Ferraro	6. Kyle Burroughs	1. Mackenzie Blackwood
2. Matt Benning	7. Radim Simek	2. Kaapo Kahkonen
3. Jan Rutta	8. Henry Thrun	3. Eetu Makiniemi
4. Marc-Edouard Vlasic	9. Jacob MacDonald	INJURED
5. Nikolai Knyzhov	10. Nikita Okhotiuk	INDICATES NEW ARRIVAL

KEY DEPARTURES & UNSIGNED UFAs James Reimer, G; Steven Lorentz, C; Andreas Johnsson, LW; Noah Gregor, C; Aaron Dell, G; Jonah Gadjovich, LW; Evgeny Svechnikov, LW; Derrick Pouliot, D; Jeffrey Viel, LW; Erik Karlsson, D

HERTL: SERGEI BELSKI-USA TODAY SPORTS

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FUTURE WATCH

BY ALL RIGHTS, THE Sharks are in the trough of a rebuild right now, and that's not a terrible place to be after years of "retooling." They got a potential No. 1 center of the future in the U.S. NTDP's Will Smith with their first pick in 2023, and being bad again gives them a shot at top prospects Mack Celebrini – who played for the Jr. Sharks as a kid – or Cole Eiserman in 2024. Other recent high selections such as William Eklund, Quentin Musty and Filip Bystedt have top-six potential, too.

TOP 10 PROSPECTS

1. Will Smith, C
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** USA U18 (NTDP)
A five-tool player and an elite playmaker among his peers. His IQ separates him from others.
Acquired 4th overall, 2023 **NHL** '25-26

2. William Eklund, LW
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** San Jose (AHL)
Spent eight games with the big club, and he'll be there full-time this season. Dynamic offensively.
Acquired 7th overall, 2021 **NHL** '23-24

3. Quentin Musty, LW
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Sudbury (OHL)
Part of putting up points is knowing where to be. He arrives in those areas and delivers.
Acquired 26th overall, 2023 **NHL** '26-27

4. Filip Bystedt, C
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Linkoping (Swe.)
Sharks happy to let him get reps in Sweden. Big center skates well and has playmaker's vision.
Acquired 27th overall, 2022 **NHL** '25-26

5. Shakir Mukhamadullin, D
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** Ufa (KHL)
KHL experience made mobile, 6-foot-4 defender look like AHL veteran upon arrival. Heavy shot.
Acquired From NJ, Feb. 26, 2023 **NHL** '24-25

6. Thomas Bordeleau, C
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** San Jose (AHL)
Improvements defensively will help him stick with Sharks. Looked ready in eight-game NHL stint.
Acquired 38th overall, 2020 **NHL** '23-24

7. Mattias Havelid, D
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Linkoping (Swe.)
Diminutive defender is adept at both ends and earned regular minutes in Sweden's top league.
Acquired 45th overall, 2022 **NHL** '26-27

8. Henry Thrun, D
Age 22 **2022-23 Team** Harvard (HE)
Harvard captain named Hockey East's top defensive 'D' and all-star. Fared well in NHL audition.
Acquired From Ana, Feb. 28, 2023 **NHL** '23-24

9. Ozzy Wiesblatt, C
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** San Jose (AHL)
Learning to excel at simple, two-way, workmanlike game in AHL is likeliest route to NHL action.
Acquired 31st overall, 2020 **NHL** '24-25

10. Kasper Halttunen, RW
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** HIPK (Fin.)
He can rifle the puck and create chances, but he'd benefit from using his size to his advantage.
Acquired 36th overall, 2023 **NHL** '27-28

SCHEDULE | 2023-24

Thu, Oct 12	vs Vegas	10:30 PM	Thu, Jan 11	@ Montreal	7:00 PM
Sat, Oct 14	vs Colorado	10:00 PM	Sat, Jan 13	@ Ottawa	4:00 PM
Tue, Oct 17	vs Carolina	10:30 PM	Mon, Jan 15	@ Buffalo	1:00 PM
Thu, Oct 19	vs Boston	10:30 PM	Tue, Jan 16	@ Chicago	8:30 PM
Sat, Oct 21	@ Nashville	8:00 PM	Sat, Jan 20	vs Anaheim	10:00 PM
Tue, Oct 24	@ Florida	7:45 PM	Mon, Jan 22	@ Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Thu, Oct 26	@ Tampa Bay	7:00 PM	Tue, Jan 23	vs NY Rangers	10:30 PM
Fri, Oct 27	@ Carolina	7:00 PM	Sat, Jan 27	vs Buffalo	4:00 PM
Sun, Oct 29	@ Washington	5:00 PM	Tue, Jan 30	vs Seattle	10:30 PM
Thu, Nov 2	vs Vancouver	10:30 PM	Wed, Jan 31	@ Anaheim	10:00 PM
Sat, Nov 4	vs Pittsburgh	10:00 PM	Wed, Feb 14	@ Winnipeg	7:30 PM
Tue, Nov 7	vs Philadelphia	10:30 PM	Thu, Feb 15	@ Calgary	9:00 PM
Thu, Nov 9	vs Edmonton	10:30 PM	Sat, Feb 17	vs Columbus	10:30 PM
Fri, Nov 10	@ Vegas	10:00 PM	Mon, Feb 19	vs Vegas	4:00 PM
Sun, Nov 12	@ Anaheim	8:00 PM	Sat, Feb 24	vs Nashville	10:00 PM
Tue, Nov 14	vs Florida	10:30 PM	Tue, Feb 27	vs New Jersey	10:30 PM
Thu, Nov 16	vs St. Louis	10:30 PM	Thu, Feb 29	vs Anaheim	10:30 PM
Mon, Nov 20	@ Vancouver	10:00 PM	Sat, Mar 2	@ Dallas	8:00 PM
Wed, Nov 22	@ Seattle	10:00 PM	Sun, Mar 3	@ Minnesota	7:00 PM
Fri, Nov 24	vs Montreal	3:30 PM	Tue, Mar 5	vs Dallas	10:30 PM
Sat, Nov 25	vs Vancouver	10:00 PM	Thu, Mar 7	vs NY Islanders	10:30 PM
Mon, Nov 27	vs Washington	10:30 PM	Sat, Mar 9	vs Ottawa	7:00 PM
Thu, Nov 30	@ Boston	7:00 PM	Tue, Mar 12	@ Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Fri, Dec 1	@ New Jersey	7:00 PM	Thu, Mar 14	@ Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Sun, Dec 3	@ NY Rangers	6:00 PM	Sat, Mar 16	@ Columbus	7:00 PM
Tue, Dec 5	@ NY Islanders	7:30 PM	Sun, Mar 17	@ Chicago	6:00 PM
Thu, Dec 7	@ Detroit	7:00 PM	Tue, Mar 19	@ Nashville	8:00 PM
Sun, Dec 10	@ Vegas	10:00 PM	Thu, Mar 21	vs Tampa Bay	10:30 PM
Tue, Dec 12	vs Winnipeg	10:30 PM	Sat, Mar 23	vs Chicago	10:30 PM
Fri, Dec 15	@ Arizona	9:00 PM	Tue, Mar 26	vs Dallas	10:30 PM
Sun, Dec 17	@ Colorado	8:00 PM	Thu, Mar 28	@ Minnesota	8:00 PM
Tue, Dec 19	vs Los Angeles	10:30 PM	Sat, Mar 30	@ St. Louis	8:00 PM
Thu, Dec 21	vs Arizona	10:30 PM	Mon, Apr 1	vs Seattle	10:30 PM
Sat, Dec 23	@ Vancouver	10:00 PM	Thu, Apr 4	vs Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Wed, Dec 27	@ Los Angeles	10:00 PM	Sat, Apr 6	vs St. Louis	6:00 PM
Thu, Dec 28	vs Edmonton	10:30 PM	Sun, Apr 7	vs Arizona	6:00 PM
Sun, Dec 31	@ Colorado	8:00 PM	Tue, Apr 9	vs Calgary	10:30 PM
Tue, Jan 2	vs Detroit	10:30 PM	Thu, Apr 11	@ Seattle	10:00 PM
Thu, Jan 4	vs Winnipeg	10:30 PM	Sat, Apr 13	vs Minnesota	10:30 PM
Sat, Jan 6	vs Toronto	7:00 PM	Mon, Apr 15	@ Edmonton	9:30 PM
Tue, Jan 9	@ Toronto	7:00 PM	Thu, Apr 18	@ Calgary	9:00 PM

BARABANOV: DAVID KIROUAC-USA TODAY SPORTS; SMITH: RENA LAVERTY / USA HOCKEY'S NTDP

ORGANIZATIONAL ROSTER

SAN JOSE SHARKS

GOALIES	AGE	HT.	WT.	CATCHES	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	W-L-OT	GAA	SP
Mason Beaupit	20	6-5	188	Left	Surrey, B.C.	108th overall (2022)	Spokane/Winnipeg (WHL)	31	16-13-0	3.74	.875
Mackenzie Blackwood	26	6-4	225	Left	Thunder Bay, Ont.	Trade: NJ 6/27/23	New Jersey	22	10-6-2	3.20	.893
Magnus Chrona	23	6-4	194	Left	Skelleftea, Swe.	Trade: TB 4/12/21	Denver (NCHC)	32	22-9-0	2.19	.916
Kaapo Kahkonen	27	6-2	217	Left	Helsinki, Fin.	Trade: Min 3/21/22	San Jose	37	9-20-7	3.85	.883
Eetu Makiniemi	24	6-2	184	Left	Vantaa, Fin.	Trade: Car 7/13/22	San Jose (AHL)	22	8-10-3	2.96	.900
Georgi Romanov	23	6-5	207	Left	Yekaterinburg, Rus.	Free Agent: signed 5/3/23	Verkhnyaya Pyshma (Rus.2)	31	8-13-5	2.81	.907

DEFENSEMEN	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Eli Barnett	20	6-6	219	Right	Ottawa, Ont.	195th overall (2022)	Victoria (BCHL)	52	4	5	9	49
Matt Benning	29	6-1	203	Right	Edmonton, Alta.	Free Agent: signed 7/14/22	San Jose	77	1	23	24	26
Kyle Burroughs	28	6-0	193	Right	Vancouver, B.C.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Vancouver	48	2	3	5	62
Luca Cagnoni	18	5-9	180	Left	Burnaby, B.C.	123rd overall (2023)	Portland (WHL)	67	17	47	64	46
Nick Cicek	23	6-3	201	Left	Winnipeg, Man.	Free Agent: signed 4/11/22	San Jose (AHL)	37	1	2	3	38
Mario Ferraro	25	6-0	209	Left	Toronto, Ont.	49th overall (2017)	San Jose	72	4	7	11	24
Michael Fisher	19	6-2	193	Right	Westborough, Mass.	76th overall (2022)	Youngstown (USHL)	14	0	0	0	6
Jake Furlong	19	6-1	189	Left	Labrador City, Nfld.	140th overall (2022)	Halifax (QMJHL)	67	7	43	50	40
Leon Gawanke	24	6-2	193	Right	Berlin, Ger.	Trade: Wpg 7/2/23	Manitoba (AHL)	68	20	25	45	51
Artem Guryev	20	6-4	225	Left	Moscow, Rus.	135th overall (2021)	Peterborough/Flint (OHL)	47	7	9	16	68
Mattias Havelid	19	5-9	165	Right	Taby, Swe.	45th overall (2022)	Linkoping (Swe.)	25	4	2	6	2
Arvid Henrikson	25	6-3	176	Right	Stockholm, Swe.	Trade: Mtl 3/3/23	Lake Superior State (CCHA)	31	0	1	1	36
Evgenii Kashnikov	20	6-4	200	Left	Moscow, Rus.	199th overall (2021)	Nizhnekamsk (KHL)	66	3	7	10	33
Nikolai Knyzhov	25	6-3	222	Left	Kemerovo, Rus.	Free Agent: signed 7/2/19	San Jose (AHL)	19	0	2	2	7
Axel Landen	18	6-1	185	Right	Jonkoping, Swe.	130th overall (2023)	HV71 Jr. (Swe.)	44	10	6	16	47
Gannon Laroque	20	6-2	200	Right	Edmonton, Alta.	103rd overall (2021)	Victoria (WHL)	4	2	3	5	0
Jacob MacDonald	30	6-0	204	Left	Portland, Ore.	Trade: Col 1/25/23	Colorado/San Jose	58	1	7	8	23
Shakir Mukhamadullin	21	6-4	178	Left	Ufa, Rus.	Trade: NJ 2/26/23	Ufa (KHL)	67	6	19	25	35
Nikita Okhotiuk	22	6-1	195	Left	Chelyabinsk, Rus.	Trade: NJ 2/26/23	Utica (AHL)	20	2	4	6	33
Eric Pohlkamp	19	5-10	201	Right	Baxter, Minn.	132nd overall (2023)	Cedar Rapids (USHL)	59	16	35	51	26
Valtteri Pulli	22	6-6	209	Left	Turku, Fin.	Free Agent: signed 5/3/23	TPS (Fin.)	53	3	14	17	12
Jan Rutta	33	6-3	204	Right	Pisek, Cze.	Trade: Pit 8/6/23	Pittsburgh	56	3	6	9	30
Radim Simek	31	6-0	204	Left	Mlada Boleslav, Cze.	Free Agent: signed 5/23/17	San Jose	44	1	2	3	29
Henry Thrun	22	6-2	190	Left	Southborough, Mass.	Trade: Ana 2/28/23	Harvard (ECAC)	33	7	24	31	14
Marc-Edouard Vlasic	36	6-1	205	Left	Montreal, Que.	35th overall (2005)	San Jose	78	1	17	18	16

CENTERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Thomas Bordeleau	21	5-10	175	Left	Houston, Texas	38th overall (2020)	San Jose (AHL)	65	22	19	41	24
Filip Bystedt	19	6-2	187	Left	Norrkoping, Swe.	27th overall (2022)	Linkoping (Swe.)	45	7	13	20	8
Ryan Carpenter	32	6-1	198	Right	Oviedo, Fla.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Hartford (AHL)	51	21	23	44	28
Sasha Chmelevski	24	6-0	188	Right	Huntington Beach, Calif.	185th overall (2017)	Ufa (KHL)	67	26	22	48	43
Logan Couture	34	6-1	206	Left	Guelph, Ont.	9th overall (2007)	San Jose	82	27	40	67	19
Mikael Granlund	31	5-10	185	Left	Oulu, Fin.	Trade: Pit 8/6/23	Nashville/Pittsburgh	79	10	31	41	20
Tomas Hertl	29	6-3	215	Left	Prague, Cze.	17th overall (2012)	San Jose	79	22	41	63	42
Theo Jacobsson	20	5-10	167	Left	Ornskoldsvik, Swe.	177th overall (2021)	Modo (Swe.2)	45	6	5	11	4
David Klee	18	6-3	188	Left	Castle Rock, Colo.	196th overall (2023)	Waterloo (USHL)	57	3	10	13	92
Luke Kunin	25	6-0	197	Right	Chesterfield, Mo.	Trade: Nsh 7/8/22	San Jose	31	5	8	13	42
Reese Laubach	19	5-11	167	Right	San Jose, Calif.	217th overall (2022)	Youngstown/Omaha (USHL)	50	11	13	24	61
Cameron Lund	19	6-1	185	Right	Bridgewater, Mass.	34th overall (2022)	Northeastern (HE)	35	7	16	23	16
Jacob Peterson	24	6-1	180	Left	Lidkoping, Swe.	Trade: Dal 3/3/23	Texas/San Jose (AHL)	52	14	18	32	26
Tristen Robins	21	5-10	176	Right	London, Gbr.	56th overall (2020)	San Jose (AHL)	64	17	21	38	16
Will Smith	18	6-0	181	Right	Boston, Mass.	4th overall (2023)	USA U18 (NTDP)	60	51	76	127	28
Yegor Spiridonov	22	6-2	192	Right	Chelyabinsk, Rus.	108th overall (2019)	Novosibirsk (KHL)	24	1	1	2	8
Nico Sturm	28	6-3	209	Left	Augsburg, Ger.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	San Jose	74	14	12	26	23
Brandon Svoboda	18	6-3	205	Right	Pittsburgh, PA.	71st overall (2023)	Youngstown (USHL)	59	16	10	26	32
Nathan Todd	27	6-1	192	Left	Kemptville, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/3/23	Springfield (AHL)	16	8	6	14	8
Ozzy Wiesblatt	21	5-10	183	Right	Calgary, Alta.	31st overall (2020)	San Jose (AHL)	45	6	9	15	30
Alex Young	22	5-11	170	Right	Calgary, Alta.	196th overall (2020)	Colgate (ECAC)	40	21	18	39	37

LEFT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Alexander Barabanov	29	5-10	195	Left	St. Petersburg, Rus.	Trade: Tor 4/12/21	San Jose	68	15	32	47	20
Anthony Duclair	28	5-11	197	Left	Pointe-Claire, Que.	Trade: FLA 7/1/23	Florida	20	2	7	9	2
William Eklund	20	5-11	181	Left	Stockholm, Swe.	7th overall (2021)	San Jose (AHL)	54	17	24	41	43
Emil Galimov	31	6-1	175	Left	Nizhnekamsk, Rus.	207th overall (2013)	St. Petersburg (KHL)	27	8	6	14	14
Danil Gushchin	21	5-8	165	Left	Yekaterinburg, Rus.	76th overall (2020)	San Jose (AHL)	67	22	23	45	24
Mike Hoffman	33	6-0	190	Left	Kitchener, Ont.	Trade: Mtl 8/6/23	Montreal	67	14	20	34	28
Oskar Lindblom	27	6-1	191	Left	Gavle, Swe.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	San Jose	73	6	9	15	18
Quentin Musty	18	6-2	200	Left	Hamburg, N.Y.	26th overall (2023)	Sudbury (OHL)	53	26	52	78	71
Fabian Zetterlund	24	5-11	220	Right	Karlstad, Swe.	Trade: NJ 2/26/23	New Jersey/San Jose	67	6	17	23	14

RIGHT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Ethan Cardwell	21	5-11	180	Right	Oshawa, Ont.	121st overall (2021)	Barrie (OHL)	62	43	47	90	21
Brandon Coe	21	6-4	188	Right	Toronto, Ont.	98th overall (2020)	San Jose (AHL)	56	5	11	16	18
Kasper Halttunen	18	6-3	207	Right	Helsinki, Fin.	36th overall (2023)	HIFK (Fin.)	27	0	1	1	8
Martin Kaut	23	6-2	190	Right	Brno, Cze.	Trade: Col 1/25/23	Colorado/San Jose	36	4	4	8	4
Kevin Labanc	27	5-11	185	Right	Brooklyn, N.Y.	171st overall (2014)	San Jose	72	15	18	33	36
Joey Muldowney	19	5-11	155	Right	Lakeview, N.Y.	172nd overall (2022)	Des Moines (USHL)	61	15	14	29	37
Adam Raska	22	5-10	178	Right	Frydek-Mistek, Cze.	201st overall (2020)	San Jose (AHL)	54	4	7	11	121
Yegor Rimashevskiy	18	6-2	197	Left	Zhlobin, Blr.	203rd overall (2023)	Dynamo Moscow Jr. (Rus.)	29	13	13	26	8
Mitchell Russell	22	6-0	194	Right	Peterborough, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 5/20/22	Wichita (ECHL)	2	0	1	1	0
Scott Sabourin	31	6-4	207	Right	Orleans, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Belleville (AHL)	51	16	17	33	177
Givani Smith	25	6-2	214	Left	Toronto, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Detroit/Florida	36	1	3	4	72
Timofey Spitserov	21	5-11	174	Left	Moscow, Rus.	210th overall (2020)	Vermont (HE)	24	4	2	6	4
Filip Zadina	23	6-0	190	Left	Pardubice, Cze.	Free Agent: signed 7/10/23	Detroit	30	3	4	7	10

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BY **GEOFF BAKER**

AFTER A 40-POINT turnaround, the 100-point Kraken stunned Colorado in a seven-game opening-round playoff series and took Dallas the distance in Round 2 before falling in Game 7. That's raised expectations among an expanded fan base seemingly awakened to the team's very existence by its first-ever playoff run.

Yet the Kraken made only minor summer moves. They expect Andre Burakovsky to return from injury and for the continued growth of Calder Trophy winner Matty Beniers to fill any offensive voids while hoping 2022 top draft pick Shane Wright sticks in the NHL.

>OFFENSE

Jared McCann became the franchise's first 40-goal scorer, while Beniers, Jordan Eberle, Oliver Bjorkstrand and Jaden Schwartz all connected for at least 20. Burakovsky was leading the team in points when he went down with injury in early February. Vince Dunn had a breakout 64-point season on defense. Depth was the team's biggest offensive strength, though the 44 combined goals by departed fourth-liners Daniel Sprong, Morgan Geekie and Ryan Donato must be replaced. The Kraken lack elite scoring, but McCann and Beniers continuing their upward trend could alleviate that.

>DEFENSE

The Kraken rely on two-way play by the forwards and above-average shot-blocking to limit opponents' chances. The defensemen are looked to for fast breakouts and quick transitions to offense, led by Dunn, Justin Schultz and Will Borgen. The addition of Brian Dumoulin could

2022-23 NUMBERS

RECORD
46-28-8 (.610)

OVERTIME
9-4

SHOOTOUT
0-4

OVERALL
12th

OFFENSE
3.52 GPG (4th)

DEFENSE
3.07 GAA (15th)

POWER PLAY
19.8% (21st)

PENALTY KILL
76.7% (21st)

CORSI FOR/60
57.64 (15th)

CORSI AGAINST/60
51.63 (3rd)

ICE TIME LEAD (F)
A. Wennberg (18:42)

ICE TIME LEAD (D)
V. Dunn (23:40)

FAST FACTS

COACH
Dave Hakstol

GM
Ron Francis

ARENA
Climate Pledge Arena

CAPACITY
17,151

AHL AFFILIATE
Coachella Valley Firebirds

ECHL AFFILIATE
Kansas City Mavericks

PLAYOFF RECORD
7-7

GRUBAUER: JAMES CAREY LAUDER-USA TODAY SPORTS

MCCANN: SERGEI BELSKI-USA TODAY SPORTS

be an upgrade over the departed Carson Soucy, though his physical play and shot-blocking will be the determining factor. Blueline ironman Adam Larsson is a critical component as his defense-first approach provides a backstop for Dunn's offensive forays. Dunn led all Kraken defenders with 14 goals and provided improved defensive play to go with his elite offensive totals. Overall, the group seeks to maintain gains while awaiting the NHL arrival of 2021 second-rounder Ryker Evans and his quick transition game.

>GOALTENDING

Philipp Grubauer was more consistent and upped his game in the playoffs. His oft-maligned .895 save percentage was sometimes skewed by defenders allowing a below-average number of shots, but he needs to replicate more of his playoff form. Departed backup Martin Jones had 27 wins due mostly to phenomenal offensive support. The Kraken feel Jones' work can be replicated or surpassed by backup Chris Driedger – who didn't play last season after ACL surgery – or standout AHL netminder Joey Daccord.

>SPECIAL TEAMS

Burakovsky's return is expected to help a power play, run by assistant coach Paul McFarland, that struggled last season. Dunn played a key role as the unit's quarterback, but the PP lacked elite finishers willing to drive to the net and often was limited to chances from the perimeter. Pierre-Edouard Bellemare's arrival should help a penalty-killing unit that – led by Alex Wennberg, Yanni Gourde and Brandon Tanev – improved from 67.9 percent to 76.7 percent after a January system change by assistant coach Dave Lowry. The simplified approach is akin to a traditional box formation with the puck kept to the perimeter and shot-blocking by Larsson and Jamie Oleksiak.

>INTANGIBLES

There's plenty of veteran leadership and playoff experience due to expansion draft pickups and subsequent signings. And now, younger players such as Beniers, Borgen and Eeli Tolvanen have also experienced playoff hockey as the team transitions from its original expansion form and starts working in

CUP ODDS

30/1

draft prospects. Depth proved key in the playoffs with 18 different goal-scorers.

>ROOKIES

Wright, last year's No. 4 overall pick, gets a second try at cracking the roster at age 19. Top AHL rookie Tye Kartye also has a shot after making his NHL debut in last season's playoffs. Evans could make his Kraken debut this season, but likely not out of camp.

>X-FACTOR

The team is counting on Beniers and Tolvanen improving and a healthy Burakovsky to offset a lack of premium offensive additions. Any downturn by two or more of them will hurt, especially if McCann can't replicate his 40-goal season. Wright sticking and demonstrating his potential would be a huge bonus.

>THE BRASS

GM Ron Francis saw his building approach vindicated for new co-owner Samantha Holloway, who assumed daily responsibilities in place of her father, billionaire co-owner David Bonderman. Holloway and the Kraken needed the playoff run to boost local fan interest as three-year minimum season-ticket renewals come due next spring. Coach Dave Hakstol, a 2022-23 Jack Adams Award finalist, seeks to replicate last year's campaign by getting more consistency from players implementing his physically demanding system.

DEPTH CHART | 2023-24

LEFT WING	CENTER	RIGHT WING
1. Jared McCann	1. Matty Beniers	1. Jordan Eberle
2. Jaden Schwartz	2. Alex Wennberg	2. Andre Burakovsky
3. Eeli Tolvanen	3. Yanni Gourde	3. Oliver Bjorkstrand
4. Brandon Tanev	4. Shane Wright	4. Kailer Yamamoto
5. Tye Kartye	5. Pierre-Edouard Bellemare	5. Kole Lind

DEFENSE		GOALIE
1. Vince Dunn	6. Justin Schultz	1. Philipp Grubauer
2. Adam Larsson	7. Cale Fleury	2. Chris Driedger
3. Jamie Oleksiak	8. Jaycob Megna	3. Joey Daccord
4. Will Borgen	9. Gustav Olofsson	INJURED
5. Brian Dumoulin	10. Connor Carrick	INDICATES NEW ARRIVAL

KEY DEPARTURES & UNSIGNED UFAs Morgan Geekie, C; Daniel Sprong, RW; Carson Soucy, D; Ryan Donato, C; Martin Jones, G; Joonas Donskoi, RW

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FUTURE WATCH

GM RON FRANCIS PULLED off quite the coup last season: his team won its first playoff round, and he supplied his scouting staff with 10 picks to play with after having 11 in 2022. The Kraken need to fill up the pipeline because the franchise is so new, but the early returns from the likes of Ryan Winterton and Ryker Evans are promising. First-rounder Eduard Sale and second-half riser Oscar Fisker Molgaard led the 2023 crop, which included three second-round selections.

TOP 10 PROSPECTS

1. Shane Wright, C
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Windsor (OHL)
After eight-game NHL run and journeyman year, he closed the season with decent AHL playoff.
Acquired 4th overall, 2022 **NHL** '23-24

2. Eduard Sale, LW
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Brno (Cze.)
A pure playmaker who scans to find and then make the right pass. It's top six or bust, though.
Acquired 20th overall, 2023 **NHL** '26-27

3. Jagger Firkus, RW
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Moose Jaw (WHL)
Ball of energy with a cannon shot and tricky release. Another WHL season will refine things.
Acquired 35th overall, 2022 **NHL** '25-26

4. Jani Nyman, RW
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Ilves (Fin.)
Half-point per game as a Liiga rookie. Has size and playmaking skill, but skating needs refining.
Acquired 49th overall, 2022 **NHL** '25-26

5. Ryker Evans, D
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** Coachella Valley (AHL)
Incredible point-per-game playoff performance for Calder Cup finalists. On cusp of next level.
Acquired 35th overall, 2021 **NHL** '24-25

6. Lukas Dragicevic, D
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Tri-City (WHL)
He can run a breakout and power play, but he's less effective in his own zone. That needs work.
Acquired 57th overall, 2023 **NHL** '27-28

7. Carson Rehkopf, LW
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Kitchener (OHL)
At his best, 30 goals is his minimum. At his worst, he's difficult to pick out in a crowd.
Acquired 50th overall, 2023 **NHL** '27-28

8. Ryan Winterton, C
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** London (OHL)
Missed time due to injury but had great numbers upon return – 65 points in 55 total games.
Acquired 67th overall, 2021 **NHL** '25-26

9. David Goyette, C
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Sudbury (OHL)
Always looking to score and get to dangerous areas. Had AHL audition at the end of last season.
Acquired 61st overall, 2022 **NHL** '26-27

10. Oscar Fisker Molgaard, C
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** HV71 (Swe.)
A two-way pivot who makes those around him better. Plays big role on Denmark's junior teams.
Acquired 52nd overall, 2023 **NHL** '27-28

SCHEDULE | 2023-24

Tue, Oct 10	@ Vegas	10:30 PM
Thu, Oct 12	@ Nashville	8:00 PM
Sat, Oct 14	@ St. Louis	8:00 PM
Tue, Oct 17	vs Colorado	10:00 PM
Thu, Oct 19	vs Carolina	10:00 PM
Sat, Oct 21	vs NY Rangers	10:00 PM
Tue, Oct 24	@ Detroit	8:15 PM
Thu, Oct 26	@ Carolina	7:00 PM
Sat, Oct 28	@ Florida	6:00 PM
Mon, Oct 30	@ Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Thu, Nov 2	vs Nashville	10:00 PM
Sat, Nov 4	vs Calgary	10:00 PM
Tue, Nov 7	@ Arizona	9:00 PM
Thu, Nov 9	@ Colorado	9:00 PM
Sat, Nov 11	vs Edmonton	10:00 PM
Mon, Nov 13	vs Colorado	10:00 PM
Wed, Nov 15	@ Edmonton	8:30 PM
Thu, Nov 16	vs NY Islanders	10:00 PM
Sat, Nov 18	@ Vancouver	10:00 PM
Mon, Nov 20	vs Calgary	10:00 PM
Wed, Nov 22	vs San Jose	10:00 PM
Fri, Nov 24	vs Vancouver	10:00 PM
Tue, Nov 28	@ Chicago	8:30 PM
Thu, Nov 30	@ Toronto	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 2	@ Ottawa	7:00 PM
Mon, Dec 4	@ Montreal	7:00 PM
Thu, Dec 7	vs New Jersey	10:00 PM
Sat, Dec 9	vs Tampa Bay	10:00 PM
Sun, Dec 10	vs Minnesota	9:00 PM
Tue, Dec 12	vs Florida	10:00 PM
Thu, Dec 14	vs Chicago	10:00 PM
Sat, Dec 16	vs Los Angeles	10:00 PM
Mon, Dec 18	@ Dallas	8:00 PM
Wed, Dec 20	@ Los Angeles	10:00 PM
Sat, Dec 23	@ Anaheim	8:00 PM
Wed, Dec 27	@ Calgary	9:30 PM
Fri, Dec 29	vs Philadelphia	10:00 PM
Mon, Jan 1	vs Vegas*	3:00 PM
Thu, Jan 4	vs Ottawa	10:00 PM
Tue, Jan 9	@ Buffalo	7:00 PM
Thu, Jan 11	@ Washington	7:00 PM
Sat, Jan 13	@ Columbus	7:00 PM
Mon, Jan 15	@ Pittsburgh	6:00 PM
Tue, Jan 16	@ NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Thu, Jan 18	@ Edmonton	9:00 PM
Sun, Jan 21	vs Toronto	9:00 PM
Wed, Jan 24	vs Chicago	10:00 PM
Fri, Jan 26	vs St. Louis	10:00 PM
Sun, Jan 28	vs Columbus	9:00 PM
Tue, Jan 30	@ San Jose	10:30 PM
Sat, Feb 10	@ Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Mon, Feb 12	@ New Jersey	7:00 PM
Tue, Feb 13	@ NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Thu, Feb 15	@ Boston	7:00 PM
Mon, Feb 19	vs Detroit	3:30 PM
Thu, Feb 22	vs Vancouver	10:00 PM
Sat, Feb 24	vs Minnesota	10:00 PM
Mon, Feb 26	vs Boston	10:00 PM
Thu, Feb 29	vs Pittsburgh	10:00 PM
Sat, Mar 2	vs Edmonton	4:00 PM
Mon, Mar 4	@ Calgary	9:30 PM
Tue, Mar 5	@ Winnipeg	8:00 PM
Fri, Mar 8	vs Winnipeg	10:00 PM
Tue, Mar 12	vs Vegas	10:00 PM
Thu, Mar 14	vs Washington	10:00 PM
Sat, Mar 16	vs Nashville	10:00 PM
Mon, Mar 18	vs Buffalo	10:00 PM
Thu, Mar 21	@ Vegas	10:00 PM
Fri, Mar 22	@ Arizona	10:00 PM
Sun, Mar 24	vs Montreal	9:00 PM
Tue, Mar 26	vs Anaheim	10:00 PM
Thu, Mar 28	vs Anaheim	10:00 PM
Sat, Mar 30	vs Dallas	10:00 PM
Mon, Apr 1	@ San Jose	10:30 PM
Wed, Apr 3	@ Los Angeles	10:00 PM
Fri, Apr 5	@ Anaheim	10:00 PM
Tue, Apr 9	vs Arizona	10:00 PM
Thu, Apr 11	vs San Jose	10:00 PM
Sat, Apr 13	@ Dallas	3:00 PM
Sun, Apr 14	@ St. Louis	1:00 PM
Tue, Apr 16	@ Winnipeg	8:00 PM
Thu, Apr 18	@ Minnesota	7:00 PM

**Winter Classic*

WRIGHT: JAY CALDERON/THE DESERT SUN; DUNN: SERGEI BELSKI-USA TODAY

ORGANIZATIONAL ROSTER

SEATTLE KRAKEN

GOALIES	AGE	HT.	WT.	CATCHES	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	W-L-OT	GAA	SP
Joey Daccord	27	6-2	201	Left	Boston, Mass.	Expansion: Ott 7/21/21	Coachella Valley (AHL)	38	26-8-3	2.38	.918
Chris Driedger	29	6-4	208	Left	Winnipeg, Man.	Expansion: Fla 7/21/21	Coachella Valley (AHL)	14	9-4-0	2.61	.908
Philipp Grubauer	31	6-1	188	Left	Rosenheim, Ger.	Free Agent: signed 7/28/21	Seattle	39	17-14-4	2.85	.895
Niklas Kokko	19	6-3	184	Left	Oulu, Fin.	58th overall (2022)	Hermes (Fin.2)	14	4-6-4	2.95	.901
Ales Stezka	26	6-4	190	Left	Liberec, Cze.	Free Agent: signed 5/2/23	Vitkovice (Cze.)	39	25-14-0	2.14	.924
Visa Vedenpaa	18	6-2	170	Left	Oulu, Fin.	168th overall (2023)	Karpat Jr. (Fin.)	31	N/A	2.72	.886
Semyon Vyazovoi	20	6-2	169	Left	Ufa, Rus.	163rd overall (2021)	Neftekamsk (Rus.2)	24	14-8-1	2.27	.920

DEFENSEMEN	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Will Borgen	26	6-3	204	Right	Moorhead, Minn.	Expansion: Buf 7/21/21	Seattle	82	3	17	20	47
Connor Carrick	29	5-10	198	Right	Orland Park, Ill.	Free Agent: signed 7/3/23	Providence (AHL)	63	6	38	44	52
Lukas Dragicevic	18	6-1	190	Right	Richmond, B.C.	57th overall (2023)	Tri-City (WHL)	68	15	60	75	54
Brian Dumoulin	32	6-4	207	Left	Biddeford, Maine	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Pittsburgh	82	1	24	25	16
Vince Dunn	26	6-0	200	Left	Mississauga, Ont.	Expansion: StL 7/21/21	Seattle	81	14	50	64	55
Ryker Evans	21	5-11	189	Left	Calgary, Alta.	35th overall (2021)	Coachella Valley (AHL)	71	6	38	44	74
Cale Fleury	24	6-1	204	Right	Carlyle, Sask.	Expansion: Mtl 7/21/21	Seattle	12	0	1	1	2
Kaden Hammell	18	6-1	173	Right	Langley, B.C.	148th overall (2023)	Kamloops/Everett (WHL)	67	8	18	26	34
Tyson Jugnauth	19	5-11	155	Left	Toronto, Ont.	100th overall (2022)	Wisconsin (Big Ten)	32	5	10	15	30
Adam Larsson	30	6-3	209	Right	Skelleftea, Swe.	Expansion: Edm 7/21/21	Seattle	82	8	25	33	47
Jaycob Megna	30	6-6	220	Left	Plantation, Fla.	Trade: SJ 2/5/23	San Jose/Seattle	54	1	11	12	21
Ty Nelson	19	5-9	195	Right	Toronto, Ont.	68th overall (2022)	North Bay (OHL)	67	24	52	76	60
Jamie Oleksiak	30	6-7	257	Left	Toronto, Ont.	Expansion: Dal 7/21/21	Seattle	75	9	16	25	72
Gustav Olofsson	28	6-2	199	Left	Boras, Swe.	Free Agent: signed 8/25/21	Coachella Valley (AHL)	20	1	5	6	8
Ville Ottavainen	21	6-5	210	Right	Oulu, Fin.	99th overall (2021)	JYP (Fin.)	54	5	11	16	30
Caden Price	18	6-1	185	Left	Saskatoon, Sask.	84th overall (2023)	Kelowna (WHL)	65	5	35	40	43
Jimmy Schuldt	28	6-1	203	Left	Minnetonka, Minn.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Coachella Valley (AHL)	71	8	24	32	31
Justin Schultz	33	6-2	190	Right	Kelowna, B.C.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Seattle	73	7	27	34	40
Peetro Seppala	23	6-2	192	Left	Kouvola, Fin.	Free Agent: signed 5/7/22	Coachella Valley (AHL)	70	1	11	12	51

CENTERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Matty Beniers	20	6-2	178	Left	Hingham, Mass.	2nd overall (2021)	Seattle	80	24	33	57	2
Oscar Fisker Molgaard	18	6-0	163	Left	Hjorring, Den.	52nd overall (2023)	HV71 (Swe.)	41	4	3	7	2
Zeb Forsfjall	18	5-9	167	Left	Skelleftea, Swe.	180th overall (2023)	Skelleftea Jr. (Swe.)	34	8	14	22	8
Yanni Gourde	31	5-9	174	Left	St-Narcisse, Que.	Expansion: TB 7/21/21	Seattle	81	14	34	48	76
David Goyette	19	5-10	172	Left	St-Jerome, Que.	61st overall (2022)	Sudbury (OHL)	63	41	51	92	43
Barrett Hall	19	6-1	167	Left	Edina, Minn.	164th overall (2022)	Green Bay (USHL)	56	17	28	45	61
John Hayden	28	6-3	223	Right	Chicago, Ill.	Free Agent: signed 7/14/22	Coachella Valley (AHL)	47	17	16	33	58
Luke Henman	23	6-0	152	Left	Dartmouth, N.S.	Free Agent: signed 5/13/21	Coachella Valley (AHL)	67	7	8	15	41
Cameron Hughes	26	6-0	183	Left	Edmonton, Alta.	Free Agent: signed 7/14/22	Coachella Valley (AHL)	61	19	37	56	57
Andrei Loshko	18	6-1	173	Left	Zhlobin, Blr.	116th overall (2023)	Chicoutimi (QMJHL)	67	22	48	70	20
Ben MacDonald	19	5-11	165	Left	Boston, Mass.	91st overall (2022)	West Kelowna (BCHL)	52	23	27	50	59
Logan Morrison	21	6-0	179	Right	Guelph, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 4/11/23	Hamilton/Ottawa (OHL)	56	40	54	94	12
Ville Petman	23	5-10	180	Left	Lappeenranta, Fin.	Free Agent: signed 6/9/22	Coachella Valley (AHL)	72	12	16	28	21
Andrew Poturalski	29	5-10	187	Right	Williamsville, N.Y.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Coachella Valley (AHL)	38	11	31	42	14
Tucker Robertson	20	5-11	188	Right	Toronto, Ont.	123rd overall (2022)	Peterborough (OHL)	68	36	54	90	34
Jaden Schwartz	31	5-10	185	Left	Wilcox, Sask.	Free Agent: signed 7/28/21	Seattle	71	21	19	40	22
Alex Wennberg	29	6-2	190	Left	Stockholm, Swe.	Free Agent: signed 7/28/21	Seattle	82	13	25	38	20
Ryan Winterton	20	6-2	175	Right	Markham, Ont.	67th overall (2021)	London (OHL)	34	12	24	36	22
Shane Wright	19	6-0	192	Right	Burlington, Ont.	4th overall (2022)	Windsor (OHL)	20	15	22	37	6

LEFT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Pierre-Edouard Bellemare	38	5-11	198	Left	Le Blanc-Mesnil, Fra.	Free Agent: signed 7/7/23	Tampa Bay	73	4	9	13	34
Andre Burakovsky	28	6-3	209	Left	Klagenfurt, Aut.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Seattle	49	13	26	39	14
Kyle Jackson	20	6-2	191	Left	Ottawa, Ont.	196th overall (2022)	North Bay (OHL)	67	31	52	83	12
Justin Janicke	20	5-11	185	Left	Maple Grove, Minn.	195th overall (2021)	Notre Dame (Big Ten)	36	7	7	14	32
Tye Kartye	22	5-11	202	Left	Kingston, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 3/1/22	Coachella Valley (AHL)	72	28	29	57	74
Jared McCann	27	6-1	191	Left	Stratford, Ont.	Expansion: Tor 7/21/21	Seattle	79	40	30	70	14
Max McCormick	31	5-11	188	Left	De Pere, Wis.	Free Agent: signed 9/29/21	Coachella Valley (AHL)	71	28	39	67	76
Carson Rehkopf	18	6-2	193	Left	Barrie, Ont.	50th overall (2023)	Kitchener (OHL)	68	30	29	59	40
Eduard Sale	18	6-2	174	Left	Brno, Cze.	20th overall (2023)	Brno (Cze.)	43	7	7	14	2
Marian Studenic	24	6-1	190	Left	Skalica, Svk.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Texas (AHL)	67	21	27	48	35
Brandon Tanev	31	6-0	189	Left	Toronto, Ont.	Expansion: Pit 7/21/21	Seattle	82	16	19	35	44

RIGHT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Oliver Bjorkstrand	28	6-0	175	Right	Herning, Den.	Trade: Clb 7/22/22	Seattle	81	20	25	45	16
Jordan Eberle	33	5-11	190	Right	Regina, Sask.	Expansion: NYI 7/21/21	Seattle	82	20	43	63	34
Jagger Firkus	19	5-10	153	Right	Irma, Alta.	35th overall (2022)	Moose Jaw (WHL)	66	40	48	88	24
Kole Lind	24	6-1	193	Right	Swift Current, Sask.	Expansion: Van 7/21/21	Coachella Valley (AHL)	72	30	32	62	91
Jacob Melanson	20	5-11	190	Right	Halifax, N.S.	131st overall (2021)	Acadie-Bathurst/Sherbrooke (QMJHL)	59	50	49	99	55
Jani Nyman	19	6-2	212	Left	Valkeakoski, Fin.	49th overall (2022)	Ilves (Fin.)	29	10	4	14	6
Eeli Tolvanen	24	5-10	191	Left	Vihti, Fin.	Waivers: Nsh 12/12/22	Nashville/Seattle	61	18	13	31	14
Zaccharya Wisdom	19	6-0	175	Right	Toronto, Ont.	212th overall (2023)	Cedar Rapids (USHL)	59	28	20	48	54
Kailer Yamamoto	25	5-8	153	Right	Spokane, Wash.	Free Agent: signed 7/2/23	Edmonton	58	10	15	25	24

TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING

NIKITA KUCHEROV

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BY **ERIK ERLENDSSON**

A LOOK AT THE LIGHTNING heading into 2023-24 suggests they are on a downward trend. The salary cap has robbed them of the depth that helped them win back-to-back Stanley Cups in 2020 and 2021, and this summer saw much of the same, as Alex Killorn and Ross Colton, among others, became the latest to leave because Tampa Bay didn't have salary-cap space.

But suggesting Tampa Bay's run is over and the window to another championship has closed would be a mistake. While the roster has undergone a makeover in recent seasons, star players remain at the core of what has made the Lightning great for the better part of the past decade. Steven Stamkos, Victor Hedman, Nikita Kucherov, Brayden Point, Anthony Cirelli, Mikhail Sergachev, Erik Cernak and Andrei Vasilevskiy remain the heartbeat of the team. The question about this year's version of the Lightning will center on who the team brought in to surround the core group.

>OFFENSE

Tampa Bay's championship teams were built on the success of the depth on all four lines. But that depth has been chipped away over the past few off-seasons due to the salary-cap constraints the team has dealt with since the end of 2020-21. Under those constraints, Lightning management tried to rebuild the depth on a tight budget, adding Conor Sheary, Luke Glendening and Josh Archibald to give the bottom lines a different look than last season by adding more speed and forechecking. Tanner Jeannot and Michael Eyssimont will be bottom-six fixtures after being acquired at last year's deadline.

2022-23 NUMBERS

RECORD
46-30-6 (.598)

OVERTIME
5-4

SHOOTOUT
3-2

OVERALL
13th

OFFENSE
3.41 GPG (8th)

DEFENSE
3.07 GAA (14th)

POWER PLAY
25.4% (3rd)

PENALTY KILL
79.7% (15th)

CORSI FOR/60
58.28 (11th)

CORSI AGAINST/60
55.00 (12th)

ICE TIME LEAD (F)
N. Kucherov (20:08)

ICE TIME LEAD (D)
M. Sergachev (23:49)

FAST FACTS

COACH
Jon Cooper

GM
Julien BriseBois

ARENA
Amalie Arena

CAPACITY
19,092

AHL AFFILIATE
Syracuse Crunch

ECHL AFFILIATE
Orlando Solar Bears

PLAYOFF RECORD
48-30 (since 2019)

KUCHEROV: JOHN E. SOKOLOWSKI-USA TODAY SPORTS

TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING

VASILEVSKIY: SERGEI BELSKI-USA TODAY SPORTS

>DEFENSE

While the notable losses on the roster happened at the forward position, in reality, the defense has taken the biggest hit when it comes to the team's overall depth chart. Hedman and Sergachev anchor the blueline and will carry a heavy load of responsibility at both ends of the ice. Cernak sits at the top on the right side, but he struggled somewhat in adjusting to life without Ryan McDonagh last season as Tampa Bay juggled the combinations. Nick Perbix emerged to help stabilize the right side, while late-bloomer Darren Raddysh proved a steady partner alongside Sergachev late in the season. Calvin de Haan was added to replace Ian Cole on the left side. Finding chemistry among partners will be a big focus early on.

>GOALTENDING

Vasilevskiy wasn't up to his world-beating standard last season, and, for the second straight year, he fell short of being a Vezina Trophy finalist. Tampa Bay needs its goaltender, who was the Conn Smythe Trophy winner in 2021, to be at his best and be the backbone of whatever success the team hopes to enjoy. The Bolts want to lighten his load this season and will need Jonas Johansson, who was signed as a free agent, to seize the backup job and provide 20-25 starts.

>SPECIAL TEAMS

When it's clicking, the Lightning power play is among the most dangerous in the league, with Kucherov running things off the right half-wall, Point in the bumper spot, Stamkos at the left circle and Sergachev running the point. That helped push them to being the NHL's third-best power play, but they battled bouts of inconsistency and allowed 11 shorthanded goals, fifth-most in the league. The penalty kill must be revamped after the losses of forwards Killorn and Pierre-Edouard Bellemare and blueliner Cole, who led the team in total shorthanded ice time. Glendening will jump into one of the forward roles.

>INTANGIBLES

The Bolts have a tiered core group of players, not all at the same point in their careers. They have stars all over the ice, and they're all important to what happens in the dressing room as well. They know what it takes to win and a longer-than-normal summer will keep them motivated.

CUP ODDS

18/1

>ROOKIES

With so many draft picks traded away in recent seasons, it's no surprise the Lightning farm system is devoid of top-level prospects. But Tampa Bay has a habit of producing NHL players with late-round picks or free agents. Left winger Cole Koepke, a sixth-round selection in 2018 who played 17 NHL games last season, is the latest example. There's also hope that center Waltteri Merela, 25, can make the jump from Finland.

>X-FACTOR

The Lightning remain a team with Cup aspirations, seeking to put their name among the dynasties of the game. But if they hope to reach the final for the fourth time in five seasons, they need the version of Vasilevskiy who led them to three consecutive finals from 2020 to 2022.

>THE BRASS

Jon Cooper, who started with the team in 2013 and is the NHL's longest-tenured coach, remains among the best in the game at his craft despite never winning a Jack Adams Trophy. He continues to get the most out of his team even with the losses to the roster. Julien BriseBois, now in his sixth season as GM, has done a masterful job at navigating the salary cap to keep the team in contention.

DEPTH CHART | 2023-24

LEFT WING	CENTER	RIGHT WING
1. Steven Stamkos	1. Brayden Point	1. Nikita Kucherov
2. Brandon Hagel	2. Anthony Cirelli	2. Conor Sheary
3. Tanner Jeannot	3. Nick Paul	3. Michael Eyssimont
4. Cole Koepke	4. Luke Glendening	4. Josh Archibald
5. Gabriel Fortier	5. Logan Brown	5. Alex Barre-Boulet

DEFENSE		GOALIE
1. Victor Hedman	6. Darren Raddysh	1. Andrei Vasilevskiy
2. Mikhail Sergachev	7. Haydn Fleury	2. Jonas Johansson
3. Erik Cernak	8. Zach Bogosian	3. Hugo Alnefelt
4. Nick Perbix	9. Philippe Myers	
5. Calvin de Haan	10. Sean Day	

INJURED
INDICATES NEW ARRIVAL

KEY DEPARTURES & UNSIGNED UFAs Alex Killorn, C; Corey Perry, RW; Pat Maroon, LW; Brian Elliott, G; Pierre-Edouard Bellemare, LW; Ross Colton, C; Ian Cole, D

ISAAC HOWARD

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FUTURE WATCH

IF YOU'RE JUDGING A draft class, always remember that director of scouting Al Murray probably selected a kid outside the top 100 who will become a regular for the Lightning one day. It's just what he does, with Ross Colton and Nick Perbix being the most recent. Jayson Shaugabay (115th in 2023) may be a future example, what with his incredible playmaking abilities. Higher up, the Bolts got an enticing prospect in second-rounder Ethan Gauthier with their first selection.

TOP 10 PROSPECTS

1. Isaac Howard, LW
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Minn-Duluth (NCHC)
Solid contributions as NCAA freshman. Transferred to Michigan State for sophomore season.
Acquired 31st overall, 2022 **NHL** '26-27

2. Ethan Gauthier, RW
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Sherbrooke (QMJHL)
Can skate and score, but it's his grit and desire to battle for every puck that are most admirable.
Acquired 37th overall, 2023 **NHL** '26-27

3. Jack Finley, C
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** Syracuse (AHL)
6-foot-6 pivot is rock-solid on the puck. Steady improvement as he learns pro game in AHL.
Acquired 57th overall, 2020 **NHL** '25-26

4. Jack Thompson, D
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** Syracuse (AHL)
Focus has been on developing own-zone game. Offense is evident in former 20-goal OHLer.
Acquired 93rd overall, 2020 **NHL** '25-26

5. Alex Barre-Boulet, C
Age 26 **2022-23 Team** Syracuse (AHL)
Nothing left for him to prove in AHL. The hope is he'll step into a middle-six and power-play role.
Acquired Waivers (Sea), Oct. 22, 2021 **NHL** '23-24

6. Hugo Alnefelt, G
Age 22 **2022-23 Team** Syracuse (AHL)
Split starts in AHL. The 6-foot-2 keeper has projectable size. He's become calmer in the crease.
Acquired 71st overall, 2019 **NHL** '24-25

7. Niko Huuhtanen, RW
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Jukurit (Fin.)
Thrives in pockets of space when he can unleash heavy shot. Skating is the primary concern.
Acquired 224th overall, 2021 **NHL** '25-26

8. Daniil Pylenkov, D
Age 23 **2022-23 Team** Cherepovets (KHL)
Played a regular role during KHL playoffs. Not a risk-taker but a safe and steady rearguard.
Acquired 196th overall, 2021 **NHL** '24-25

9. Dylan Duke, LW
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Michigan (Big Ten)
Growth from freshman to sophomore season was apparent in numbers. He's a high-energy player.
Acquired 126th overall, 2021 **NHL** '26-27

10. Jayson Shaugabay, RW
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Green Bay (USHL)
Diminutive playmaker puts pucks on platters for his teammates. He'll have to work on quickness.
Acquired 115th overall, 2023 **NHL** '27-28

SCHEDULE | 2023-24

Tue, Oct 10	vs	Nashville	5:30 PM	Tue, Jan 9	vs	Los Angeles	7:00 PM
Sat, Oct 14	@	Detroit	7:00 PM	Thu, Jan 11	vs	New Jersey	7:00 PM
Sun, Oct 15	@	Ottawa	7:00 PM	Sat, Jan 13	vs	Anaheim	7:00 PM
Tue, Oct 17	@	Buffalo	7:00 PM	Thu, Jan 18	vs	Minnesota	7:00 PM
Thu, Oct 19	vs	Vancouver	7:00 PM	Sat, Jan 20	@	Buffalo	12:30 PM
Sat, Oct 21	vs	Toronto	7:00 PM	Sun, Jan 21	@	Detroit	5:00 PM
Tue, Oct 24	vs	Carolina	7:00 PM	Tue, Jan 23	@	Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Thu, Oct 26	vs	San Jose	7:00 PM	Thu, Jan 25	vs	Arizona	7:00 PM
Mon, Oct 30	vs	Seattle	7:00 PM	Sat, Jan 27	vs	New Jersey	7:00 PM
Thu, Nov 2	@	Columbus	7:00 PM	Wed, Feb 7	@	NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Sat, Nov 4	@	Ottawa	7:00 PM	Thu, Feb 8	@	NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Mon, Nov 6	@	Toronto	7:00 PM	Sat, Feb 10	@	Columbus	7:00 PM
Tue, Nov 7	@	Montreal	7:00 PM	Tue, Feb 13	@	Boston	7:00 PM
Thu, Nov 9	vs	Chicago	7:00 PM	Thu, Feb 15	vs	Colorado	7:00 PM
Sat, Nov 11	vs	Carolina	7:00 PM	Sat, Feb 17	vs	Florida	5:00 PM
Tue, Nov 14	@	St. Louis	8:00 PM	Mon, Feb 19	vs	Ottawa	7:00 PM
Thu, Nov 16	@	Chicago	8:30 PM	Thu, Feb 22	vs	Washington	7:00 PM
Sat, Nov 18	vs	Edmonton	4:00 PM	Sat, Feb 24	@	NY Islanders	12:30 PM
Mon, Nov 20	vs	Boston	7:00 PM	Sun, Feb 25	@	New Jersey	1:00 PM
Wed, Nov 22	vs	Winnipeg	7:00 PM	Tue, Feb 27	@	Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Fri, Nov 24	@	Carolina	3:00 PM	Thu, Feb 29	vs	Buffalo	7:00 PM
Mon, Nov 27	@	Colorado	9:00 PM	Sat, Mar 2	vs	Montreal	7:00 PM
Tue, Nov 28	@	Arizona	9:00 PM	Thu, Mar 7	vs	Calgary	7:00 PM
Thu, Nov 30	vs	Pittsburgh	7:00 PM	Sat, Mar 9	vs	Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 2	@	Dallas	2:00 PM	Thu, Mar 14	vs	NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Mon, Dec 4	vs	Dallas	7:00 PM	Sat, Mar 16	@	Florida	6:00 PM
Wed, Dec 6	vs	Pittsburgh	7:00 PM	Tue, Mar 19	@	Vegas	10:00 PM
Thu, Dec 7	@	Nashville	8:00 PM	Thu, Mar 21	@	San Jose	10:30 PM
Sat, Dec 9	@	Seattle	10:00 PM	Sat, Mar 23	@	Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Tue, Dec 12	@	Vancouver	10:00 PM	Sun, Mar 24	@	Anaheim	8:30 PM
Thu, Dec 14	@	Edmonton	9:00 PM	Wed, Mar 27	vs	Boston	7:30 PM
Sat, Dec 16	@	Calgary	10:00 PM	Sat, Mar 30	vs	NY Islanders	7:00 PM
Tue, Dec 19	vs	St. Louis	7:00 PM	Mon, Apr 1	vs	Detroit	7:00 PM
Thu, Dec 21	vs	Vegas	7:00 PM	Wed, Apr 3	@	Toronto	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 23	@	Washington	7:00 PM	Thu, Apr 4	@	Montreal	7:00 PM
Wed, Dec 27	vs	Florida	7:00 PM	Sat, Apr 6	@	Pittsburgh	1:00 PM
Sat, Dec 30	vs	NY Rangers	7:00 PM	Tue, Apr 9	vs	Columbus	7:00 PM
Sun, Dec 31	vs	Montreal	7:00 PM	Thu, Apr 11	vs	Ottawa	7:00 PM
Tue, Jan 2	@	Winnipeg	8:00 PM	Sat, Apr 13	@	Washington	5:30 PM
Thu, Jan 4	@	Minnesota	8:00 PM	Mon, Apr 15	vs	Buffalo	7:00 PM
Sat, Jan 6	@	Boston	7:00 PM	Wed, Apr 17	vs	Toronto	7:00 PM

BRAYDEN POINT

HOWARD: TERRY CARRIE NORTON; POINT: PERRY NELSON-USA TODAY SPORTS

ORGANIZATIONAL ROSTER

GOALIES	AGE	HT.	WT.	CATCHES	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	W-L-OT	GAA	SP
Hugo Alnefelt	22	6-2	177	Left	Danderyd, Swe.	71st overall (2019)	Syracuse (AHL)	33	17-12-2	2.77	.904
Jonas Johansson	28	6-5	220	Left	Gavle, Swe.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Colorado (AHL)	26	14-9-2	2.33	.920
Maxime Lagace	30	6-2	190	Left	St-Augustin, Que.	Free Agent: signed 7/28/21	Syracuse (AHL)	41	17-12-8	3.34	.888
Nick Malik	21	6-1	177	Left	Raleigh, N.C.	160th overall (2022)	KooKoo (Fin.)	24	4-13-6	2.74	.891
Matt Tomkins	29	6-3	194	Left	Edmonton, Alta.	Free Agent: signed 5/10/23	Farjestad (Swe.)	32	20-12-0	2.53	.911
Andrei Vasilevskiy	29	6-4	220	Left	Tyumen, Rus.	19th overall (2012)	Tampa Bay	60	34-22-4	2.65	.915

DEFENSEMEN	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Zach Bogosian	33	6-2	222	Right	Massena, N.Y.	Free Agent: signed 7/28/21	Tampa Bay	46	1	4	5	42
Declan Carlile	23	6-1	189	Left	Hartland, Mich.	Free Agent: signed 3/16/22	Syracuse (AHL)	69	8	16	24	39
Erik Cernak	26	6-4	224	Right	Kosice, Svk.	Trade: LA 2/26/17	Tampa Bay	70	2	14	16	53
Warren Clark	19	6-3	195	Right	Windsor, Ont.	179th overall (2023)	Steinbach (MJHL)	55	6	32	38	14
Maxwell Crozier	23	6-1	195	Right	Calgary, Alta.	120th overall (2019)	Providence (HE)	37	3	21	24	33
Sean Day	25	6-3	218	Left	Leuven, Bel.	Free Agent: signed 7/17/20	Syracuse (AHL)	63	0	14	14	41
Calvin de Haan	32	6-1	195	Left	Carp, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/2/23	Carolina	53	2	10	12	20
Haydn Fleury	27	6-4	208	Left	Carlyle, Sask.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Tampa Bay	29	0	1	1	14
Alex Gagne	21	6-4	205	Left	Bedford, N.H.	192nd overall (2021)	New Hampshire (HE)	35	1	8	9	14
Dyllan Gill	19	6-2	179	Right	Riverview, N.B.	223rd overall (2022)	Rouyn-Noranda (QMJHL)	68	8	49	57	35
Victor Hedman	32	6-7	244	Left	Ornskoldsvik, Swe.	2nd overall (2009)	Tampa Bay	76	9	40	49	42
Emil Martinsen Lilleberg	22	6-2	192	Left	Sarpsborg, Nor.	Free Agent: signed 6/5/23	Oskarshamn (Swe.)	46	3	8	11	41
Philippe Myers	26	6-6	219	Right	Moncton, N.B.	Trade: Nsh 7/3/22	Syracuse (AHL)	52	8	21	29	88
Nick Perbix	25	6-2	191	Right	Elk River, Minn.	169th overall (2017)	Tampa Bay	69	5	15	20	22
Eamon Powell	21	5-11	165	Right	Marcellus, N.Y.	116th overall (2020)	Boston College (HE)	36	5	17	22	16
Daniil Pylenkov	23	6-1	194	Left	Yegoryevsk, Rus.	196th overall (2021)	St. Petersburg/Cherepovets (KHL)	40	4	17	21	12
Darren Raddysh	27	6-1	200	Right	Toronto, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/28/21	Syracuse (AHL)	50	13	38	51	40
Roman Schmidt	20	6-5	210	Right	Midland, Mich.	96th overall (2021)	Kitchener (OHL)	64	4	24	28	74
Brent Seabrook	38	6-3	220	Right	Richmond, B.C.	Trade: Chi 7/27/21	Tampa Bay			DNP		
Mikhail Sergachev	25	6-1	217	Left	Nizhnekamsk, Rus.	Trade: Mtl 6/15/17	Tampa Bay	79	10	54	64	53
Jack Thompson	21	6-0	178	Right	Courtice, Ont.	93rd overall (2020)	Syracuse (AHL)	71	8	15	23	18

CENTERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Alex Barre-Boulet	26	5-10	180	Left	Montmagny, Que.	Waivers: Sea 10/22/21	Syracuse (AHL)	69	24	60	84	58
Logan Brown	25	6-6	218	Left	Raleigh, N.C.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	St. Louis	30	2	4	6	8
Anthony Cirelli	26	6-0	189	Left	Etobicoke, Ont.	72nd overall (2015)	Tampa Bay	58	11	18	29	33
Michael Eyssimont	27	6-0	180	Left	Littleton, Colo.	Trade: SJ 3/1/23	Winnipeg/San Jose/Tampa Bay	54	5	10	15	63
Jack Finley	21	6-6	220	Right	St. Louis, Mo.	57th overall (2020)	Syracuse (AHL)	67	12	9	21	49
Luke Glendening	34	5-11	190	Right	Grand Rapids, Mich.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Dallas	70	3	3	6	50
Gage Goncalves	22	6-0	181	Left	Mission, B.C.	62nd overall (2020)	Syracuse (AHL)	71	13	41	54	34
Jack Harvey	20	5-10	166	Left	Des Moines, Iowa	193rd overall (2023)	Chicago (USHL)	62	40	34	74	24
Ethan Hay	18	6-1	189	Left	Kitchener, Ont.	211th overall (2023)	Flint (OHL)	64	17	11	28	61
Waltteri Merela	25	6-2	196	Right	Ylojarvi, Fin.	Free Agent: signed 6/5/23	Tappara (Fin.)	41	15	18	33	47
Brayden Point	27	5-11	180	Right	Calgary, Alta.	79th overall (2014)	Tampa Bay	82	51	44	95	7
Felix Robert	24	5-8	170	Left	Lambton, Que.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Syracuse (AHL)	55	18	16	34	26
Simon Ryfors	26	5-10	181	Left	Stockholm, Swe.	Free Agent: signed 5/12/21	Syracuse (AHL)	72	27	32	59	32
Steven Stamkos	33	6-0	182	Right	Markham, Ont.	1st overall (2008)	Tampa Bay	81	34	50	84	46
Ilya Usau	22	6-1	183	Left	Minsk, Blr.	Free Agent: signed 3/20/22	Syracuse (AHL)	57	4	12	16	26

LEFT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Dylan Duke	20	5-10	175	Left	Strongsville, Ohio	126th overall (2021)	Michigan (Big Ten)	41	18	14	32	43
Jaydon Dureau	22	5-11	173	Left	White City, Sask.	147th overall (2020)	Orlando (ECHL)	36	6	13	19	18
Robert Flinton	20	6-2	210	Left	Auburn, N.H.	211th overall (2021)	Dartmouth (ECAC)	27	6	9	15	12
Gabriel Fortier	23	5-10	177	Left	Lachine, Que.	59th overall (2018)	Syracuse (AHL)	67	11	18	29	29
Brandon Hagel	25	6-2	179	Left	Saskatoon, Sask.	Trade: Chi 3/18/22	Tampa Bay	81	30	34	64	54
Isaac Howard	19	5-10	182	Left	Hudson, Wis.	31st overall (2022)	Minnesota-Duluth (NCHC)	35	6	11	17	25
Tanner Jeannot	26	6-2	208	Left	Estevan, Sask.	Trade: Nsh 2/26/23	Nashville/Tampa Bay	76	6	12	18	107
Cole Koepke	25	6-1	196	Left	Two Harbors, Minn.	183rd overall (2018)	Syracuse (AHL)	52	7	12	19	23
Bennett MacArthur	22	6-0	195	Left	Summerside, P.E.I.	Free Agent: signed 3/1/22	Orlando (ECHL)	53	10	18	28	18
Nick Paul	28	6-3	223	Left	Mississauga, Ont.	Trade: Ott 3/20/22	Tampa Bay	80	17	15	32	33
Mikhail Shalagin	24	6-4	185	Left	Moscow, Rus.	198th overall (2019)	Soligorsk (Blr.)	29	14	5	19	20
Conor Sheary	31	5-9	179	Left	Winchester, Mass.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Washington	82	15	22	37	22
Klavs Veinbergs	20	6-3	198	Right	Riga, Lat.	224th overall (2022)	Lincoln (USHL)	50	12	16	28	93
McKade Webster	23	5-10	167	Left	St. Louis, Mo.	213th overall (2019)	Denver (NCHC)	30	6	8	14	34

RIGHT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Josh Archibald	30	5-10	176	Right	Regina, Sask.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Pittsburgh	62	6	6	12	43
Nick Capone	21	6-2	202	Right	East Haven, Conn.	157th overall (2020)	Connecticut (HE)	35	9	9	18	34
Mitchell Chaffee	25	6-1	201	Right	Grand Rapids, Mich.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Iowa (AHL)	10	5	2	7	8
Lucas Edmonds	22	5-11	185	Right	North Bay, Ont.	86th overall (2022)	Syracuse (AHL)	49	15	12	27	8
Ethan Gauthier	18	5-11	175	Right	Scottsdale, Ariz.	37th overall (2023)	Sherbrooke (QMJHL)	66	30	39	69	47
Maxim Groshev	21	6-2	194	Left	Agryz, Rus.	85th overall (2020)	St. Petersburg (KHL)	34	4	2	6	4
Niko Huuhtanen	20	6-2	204	Right	Espoo, Fin.	224th overall (2021)	Jukurit (Fin.)	48	17	13	30	72
Nikita Kucherov	30	5-11	181	Left	Maykop, Rus.	58th overall (2011)	Tampa Bay	82	30	83	113	36
Connor Kurth	20	5-11	207	Right	Elk River, Minn.	192nd overall (2022)	Minnesota (Big Ten)	38	7	4	11	35
Jayson Shaugabay	18	5-9	153	Right	Roseau, Minn.	115th overall (2023)	Warroad (USHS)	31	33	63	96	12

TORONTO MAPLE LEAFS

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BY **CASEY IPPOLITO**

THEY FINALLY DID IT. The Maple Leafs won a first-round playoff series. By defeating Tampa Bay in six games, Toronto snapped a streak of six first-round losses in as many years. What followed, a Round 2 defeat against underdog Florida, temporarily wiped away the goodwill. But despite the second-round letdown, the Leafs still achieved their best post-season result since 2004.

The playoff progress didn't translate to an uncomplicated off-season, however, as contract talks with GM Kyle Dubas played out publicly and culminated in Dubas' dismissal. Soon after, he was named president of hockey operations in Pittsburgh. The Leafs turned to Brad Treliving, who was Calgary's GM the past nine seasons. Treliving's first hire was Coyotes legend Shane Doan – Auston Matthews' boyhood idol – as special adviser to the GM. Treliving's top priority is signing Matthews to an extension.

Treliving spent much of the off-season in an extension standoff with another star, William Nylander. With the contractual futures of two cornerstone players up in the air, Treliving sought UFAs with flexibility in mind. To add some grit to his scoring lines, Treliving inked Tyler Bertuzzi and hometown kid Max Domi to one-year deals, while also signing pugnacious winger Ryan Reaves and depth center Dylan Gambrell. On the blueline, power-play weapon John Klingberg was the only meaningful addition.

>OFFENSE

The high-powered forward core – Matthews, Nylander, Mitch Marner and John Tavares – only led the Leafs to ninth in offense last season. The top guys performed, but depth was an issue. In Bertuzzi and Domi, the Leafs add

2022-23 NUMBERS

RECORD
50-21-11 (.677)

OVERTIME
7-9

SHOOTOUT
1-2

OVERALL
4th

OFFENSE
3.39 GPG (9th)

DEFENSE
2.68 GAA (7th)

POWER PLAY
26.0% (2nd)

PENALTY KILL
81.9% (12th)

CORSI FOR/60
57.26 (17th)

CORSI AGAINST/60
54.85 (10th)

ICE TIME LEAD (F)
M. Marner (21:17)

ICE TIME LEAD (D)
M. Rielly (21:42)

FAST FACTS

COACH
Sheldon Keefe

GM
Brad Treliving

ARENA
Scotiabank Arena

CAPACITY
18,800

AHL AFFILIATE
Toronto Marlies

ECHL AFFILIATE
Newfoundland Growlers

PLAYOFF RECORD
16-21 (since 2019)

MATTHEWS: NICK TURCHIARO-USA TODAY SPORTS

TORONTO MAPLE LEAFS

two tenacious wingers with a chance at 20 goals and 50 points each. The pair, along with rookie Matthew Knies, gives the roster some punch at left wing. There won't be holes on the top two lines, but coach Sheldon Keefe will have to get creative to get goals from his bottom six, which is anchored by defense-minded center David Kampf.

>DEFENSE

The club's major area of improvement last season was team defense, which could suffer after Treliving's roster shuffling – none of the newcomers are great defenders, especially Klingberg. The drop-off from No. 1 to No. 2 on Toronto's blueline is steep, as the Leafs continue searching for someone to take the pressure off of Morgan Rielly. T.J. Brodie and Jake McCabe will play in the top four, with Klingberg, Timothy Liljegren, Mark Giordano and Conor Timmins in the mix for regular roles. Jake Muzzin's future continues to be up in the air after missing most of last season with a neck injury.

>GOALTENDING

One season after acquiring Matt Murray and Ilya Samsonov, it's Samsonov who still stands, with Murray placed on LTIR and unlikely to return to the team. Samsonov won't be the undisputed No. 1, though, as Joseph Woll stepped up and outperformed Samsonov in the playoffs. Woll could be the long-term solution in net. Martin Jones was signed in August as an insurance policy.

>SPECIAL TEAMS

A power play that features the 'Core Four,' plus Rielly at quarterback is perpetually productive, finishing second in the league last season. The challenge now is creating enough variety to ensure the extra-man unit doesn't falter in the playoffs. In Klingberg, the club has a right-handed point man who can take occasional reps with the top group in place of the left-handed Rielly. Despite unexceptional goaltending, the Leafs were 12th in penalty killing. Marner's superb PK prowess and takeaway mastery made him a finalist for the Selke Trophy.

>INTANGIBLES

If Matthews doesn't sign an extension, questions about his future will distract all season. Then there's Keefe, who survived the new GM's first series of dismissals but was expected by many to be let go. Does he still have the ear of the room?

>ROOKIES

When the 20-year-old Knies made his playoff debut against Tampa Bay, he instantly displayed veteran qualities and was an unlikely catalyst in the series. Knies doesn't waste his 6-foot-2 frame and fills a position of need on the left side.

>X-FACTOR

Belief within the room should be higher after the playoff victory over Tampa Bay. It will come down to Matthews. Will he commit to Toronto long-term, and is he ready to put the team on his back in the playoffs? Given the top-heavy roster, Tavares and Matthews combining for zero goals against Florida was concerning. The Core Four have never shown up in unison when the post-season arrives.

>THE BRASS

Standing at the podium explaining the impasse with Dubas, team president Brendan Shanahan looked his most fallible since being hired in 2014. His image is no longer immaculate, nor is it a certainty that ownership trusts him long term. It was also reported over the summer that Larry Tanenbaum, MLSE's 25-percent owner and chairman of the board, may be selling shares, which could impact Shanahan.

CUP ODDS

13/1

DEPTH CHART | 2023-24

LEFT WING	CENTER	RIGHT WING
1. Tyler Bertuzzi	1. Auston Matthews	1. Mitch Marner
2. Max Domi	2. John Tavares	2. William Nylander
3. Matthew Knies	3. David Kampf	3. Sam Lafferty
4. Calle Jarnkrok	4. Dylan Gambrell	4. Ryan Reaves
5. Nick Robertson	5. Bobby McMann	5. Pontus Holmberg

DEFENSE		GOALIE
1. Morgan Rielly	6. Timothy Liljegren	1. Ilya Samsonov
2. Jake Muzzin	7. Mark Giordano	2. Joseph Woll
3. John Klingberg	8. Conor Timmins	3. Martin Jones
4. T.J. Brodie	9. William Lagesson	INJURED
5. Jake McCabe	10. Max Lajoie	INDICATES NEW ARRIVAL

KEY DEPARTURES & UNSIGNED UFAs Michael Bunting, LW; Ryan O'Reilly, C; Luke Schenn, D; Justin Holl, D; Noel Acciari, C; Alex Kerfoot, C; Zach Aston-Reese, C; Wayne Simmonds, RW; Erik Gustafsson, D; Erik Kallgren, G

MARNER: JOHN E. SOKOLOWSKI-USA TODAY SPORTS

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FUTURE WATCH

THE WIN-NOW LEAFS have made just 11 total selections in the past three drafts and only one first-rounder – Easton Cowan at 28th overall in 2023. Power forward Matthew Knies has been their most astute pick of late, and he's ready for a full-time gig after a great rookie playoff performance. Some of the better selections lately have been traded away (Rasmus Sandin, Sean Durzi), while others have been felled by injury (Nick Robertson) or serious illness (Rodion Amirov).

TOP 10 PROSPECTS

1. Matthew Knies, LW
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Minnesota (Big Ten)
Didn't miss a beat moving from the NCAA to the NHL playoffs. Top-six spot is his to lose.
Acquired 57th overall, 2021 **NHL** '23-24

2. Nick Robertson, LW
Age 22 **2022-23 Team** Toronto (AHL)
A shoulder injury limited his time. Deceptive scorer has a wealth of lamp-lighting qualities.
Acquired 53rd overall, 2019 **NHL** '23-24

3. Easton Cowan, RW
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** London (OHL)
Playing in all situations speaks to his intelligence. He needs to work on his strength in the corners.
Acquired 28th overall, 2023 **NHL** '26-27

4. Topi Niemela, D
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** Karpat (Fin.)
Puck-moving defender sees play develop and distributes wisely. Dip in production isn't a concern.
Acquired 64th overall, 2020 **NHL** '24-25

5. Nick Abruzzese, C
Age 24 **2022-23 Team** Toronto (AHL)
Lacks elite skill but has excellent hockey sense, making him an intriguing bottom-six option.
Acquired 124th overall, 2019 **NHL** '24-25

6. Fraser Minten, C
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Kamloops (WHL)
Career-best WHL season. Plays with big-league physicality. Another year in junior won't hurt.
Acquired 38th overall, 2022 **NHL** '26-27

7. Rodion Amirov, LW
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** Ufa (KHL)
Missed season getting treatment for brain tumor. Signed one-year KHL deal and hopes to play.
Acquired 15th overall, 2020 **NHL** '25-26

8. Joseph Woll, G
Age 25 **2022-23 Team** Toronto (AHL)
He'll start the season as the NHL backup, but he could take the top job at a moment's notice.
Acquired 62nd overall, 2016 **NHL** '23-24

9. Roni Hirvonen, C
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** HIFK (Fin.)
Experienced Finnish pro captained the national team to WJC silver. He's a solid two-way center.
Acquired 59th overall, 2020 **NHL** '24-25

10. Nicholas Moldenhauer, RW
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Chicago (USHL)
Showed offensive gifts with 30-goal USHL season. Set for freshman year at Michigan.
Acquired 95th overall, 2022 **NHL** '27-28

SCHEDULE | 2023-24

Wed, Oct 11	vs Montreal	7:00 PM	Tue, Jan 16	@ Edmonton	9:00 PM
Sat, Oct 14	vs Minnesota	7:00 PM	Thu, Jan 18	@ Calgary	9:00 PM
Mon, Oct 16	vs Chicago	7:00 PM	Sat, Jan 20	@ Vancouver	7:00 PM
Thu, Oct 19	@ Florida	7:00 PM	Sun, Jan 21	@ Seattle	9:00 PM
Sat, Oct 21	@ Tampa Bay	7:00 PM	Wed, Jan 24	vs Winnipeg	7:00 PM
Tue, Oct 24	@ Washington	6:00 PM	Sat, Jan 27	@ Winnipeg	7:00 PM
Thu, Oct 26	@ Dallas	8:00 PM	Mon, Feb 5	vs NY Islanders	7:00 PM
Sat, Oct 28	@ Nashville	7:00 PM	Wed, Feb 7	vs Dallas	7:00 PM
Tue, Oct 31	vs Los Angeles	8:00 PM	Sat, Feb 10	@ Ottawa	7:00 PM
Thu, Nov 2	@ Boston	7:00 PM	Tue, Feb 13	vs St. Louis	7:00 PM
Sat, Nov 4	vs Buffalo	7:00 PM	Thu, Feb 15	vs Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Mon, Nov 6	vs Tampa Bay	7:00 PM	Sat, Feb 17	vs Anaheim	7:00 PM
Wed, Nov 8	vs Ottawa	7:00 PM	Mon, Feb 19	@ St. Louis	1:00 PM
Fri, Nov 10	vs Calgary	7:00 PM	Wed, Feb 21	@ Arizona	10:00 PM
Sat, Nov 11	vs Vancouver	7:00 PM	Thu, Feb 22	@ Vegas	10:00 PM
Fri, Nov 17	@ Detroit*	2:00 PM	Sat, Feb 24	@ Colorado	7:00 PM
Sun, Nov 19	@ Minnesota*	8:00 AM	Tue, Feb 27	vs Vegas	7:00 PM
Fri, Nov 24	@ Chicago	2:00 PM	Thu, Feb 29	vs Arizona	7:00 PM
Sat, Nov 25	@ Pittsburgh	7:00 PM	Sat, Mar 2	vs NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Tue, Nov 28	vs Florida	7:00 PM	Mon, Mar 4	vs Boston	7:00 PM
Thu, Nov 30	vs Seattle	7:00 PM	Wed, Mar 6	vs Buffalo	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 2	vs Boston	7:00 PM	Thu, Mar 7	@ Boston	7:00 PM
Thu, Dec 7	@ Ottawa	7:00 PM	Sat, Mar 9	@ Montreal	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 9	vs Nashville	7:00 PM	Thu, Mar 14	@ Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Mon, Dec 11	@ NY Islanders	7:00 PM	Sat, Mar 16	vs Carolina	7:00 PM
Tue, Dec 12	@ NY Rangers	7:00 PM	Tue, Mar 19	@ Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Thu, Dec 14	vs Columbus	7:00 PM	Wed, Mar 20	@ Washington	7:30 PM
Sat, Dec 16	vs Pittsburgh	7:00 PM	Sat, Mar 23	vs Edmonton	7:00 PM
Tue, Dec 19	vs NY Rangers	7:00 PM	Sun, Mar 24	@ Carolina	6:00 PM
Thu, Dec 21	@ Buffalo	7:00 PM	Tue, Mar 26	vs New Jersey	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 23	@ Columbus	7:00 PM	Thu, Mar 28	vs Washington	7:00 PM
Wed, Dec 27	vs Ottawa	7:00 PM	Sat, Mar 30	@ Buffalo	7:00 PM
Fri, Dec 29	@ Columbus	7:00 PM	Mon, Apr 1	vs Florida	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 30	vs Carolina	7:00 PM	Wed, Apr 3	vs Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Tue, Jan 2	@ Los Angeles	10:30 PM	Sat, Apr 6	@ Montreal	7:00 PM
Wed, Jan 3	@ Anaheim	9:00 PM	Mon, Apr 8	vs Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Sat, Jan 6	@ San Jose	7:00 PM	Tue, Apr 9	@ New Jersey	7:00 PM
Tue, Jan 9	vs San Jose	7:00 PM	Thu, Apr 11	vs New Jersey	7:00 PM
Thu, Jan 11	@ NY Islanders	7:30 PM	Sat, Apr 13	vs Detroit	7:00 PM
Sat, Jan 13	vs Colorado	7:00 PM	Tue, Apr 16	@ Florida	7:00 PM
Sun, Jan 14	vs Detroit	7:00 PM	Wed, Apr 17	@ Tampa Bay	7:00 PM

**Global Series in Sweden*

KNIES: NICK TURCHIARO-USA TODAY SPORTS; NYLANDER: BOB FRID-USA TODAY SPORTS

ORGANIZATIONAL ROSTER

GOALIES	AGE	HT.	WT.	CATCHES	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	W-L-OT	GAA	SP
Artur Akhtyamov	21	6-1	167	Left	Kazan, Rus.	106th overall (2020)	Almetyevsk (Rus.2)	39	20-12-6	1.74	.943
Dennis Hildeby	22	6-5	209	Left	Jarfalla, Swe.	122nd overall (2022)	Farjestad (Swe.)	21	11-9-0	2.26	.918
Martin Jones	33	6-4	203	Left	North Vancouver, Van.	Free Agent: signed 8/9/23	Seattle	48	27-13-3	2.99	.887
Matt Murray	29	6-5	203	Left	Thunder Bay, Ont.	Trade: Ott 7/11/22	Toronto	26	14-8-2	3.01	.903
Vyacheslav Peksa	21	6-2	163	Left	Magnitogorsk, Rus.	185th overall (2021)	Kazan (Rus.2)	40	13-19-6	2.34	.921
Keith Petruzzelli	24	6-6	180	Left	Wilbraham, Mass.	Free Agent: signed 11/6/22	Toronto (AHL)	25	13-8-2	2.90	.909
Ilya Samsonov	26	6-3	214	Left	Magnitogorsk, Rus.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Toronto	42	27-10-5	2.33	.919
Joseph Woll	25	6-3	203	Left	Dardenne Prairie, Mo.	62nd overall (2016)	Toronto (AHL)	21	16-4-1	2.37	.927
DEFENSEMEN	**AGE**	**HT.**	**WT.**	**SHOOTS**	**BORN**	**ACQUIRED**	**2022-23**	**GP**	**G**	**A**	**P**	**PIM**
T.J. Brodie	33	6-2	187	Left	Chatham, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 10/9/20	Toronto	58	2	12	14	14
Noah Chadwick	18	6-4	187	Left	Saskatoon, Sask.	185th overall (2023)	Lethbridge (WHL)	67	5	15	20	16
John Fusco	22	5-9	174	Right	Boston, Mass.	189th overall (2020)	Dartmouth (ECAC)	22	3	8	11	23
Mark Giordano	39	6-0	205	Left	Toronto, Ont.	Trade: Sea 3/20/22	Toronto	78	4	20	24	53
John Klingberg	31	6-3	190	Right	Gothenburg, Swe.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Anaheim/Minnesota	67	10	23	33	34
Mikko Kokkonen	22	6-0	200	Left	Mikkeli, Fin.	84th overall (2019)	Toronto (AHL)	36	0	6	6	26
Michael Koster	22	5-9	171	Left	Marshall, Minn.	146th overall (2019)	Minnesota (Big Ten)	40	6	23	29	8
William Lagesson	27	6-2	207	Left	Gothenburg, Swe.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Chicago (AHL)	65	10	22	32	46
Maxime Lajoie	25	6-1	196	Left	Quebec City, Que.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Chicago (AHL)	63	11	34	45	58
Timothy Liljegren	24	6-1	192	Right	Kristianstad, Swe.	17th overall (2017)	Toronto	67	6	12	18	30
Jake McCabe	29	6-1	204	Left	Eau Claire, Wis.	Trade: Chi 2/27/23	Chicago/Toronto	76	3	22	25	56
Jake Muzzin	34	6-3	227	Left	Woodstock, Ont.	Trade: LA 1/28/19	Toronto	4	0	1	1	2
Topi Niemela	21	5-11	156	Right	Oulu, Fin.	64th overall (2020)	Karpat (Fin.)	58	8	10	18	12
Ryan O'Connell	24	6-1	170	Left	Gloucester, Ont.	203rd overall (2017)	Michigan Tech (CCHA)	35	0	3	3	14
Morgan Rielly	29	6-1	222	Left	Vancouver, B.C.	5th overall (2012)	Toronto	65	4	37	41	21
Marshall Rifai	25	6-1	190	Left	Beaconsfield, Que.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Toronto (AHL)	69	4	12	16	118
Conor Timmins	25	6-2	202	Right	St. Catharines, Ont.	Trade: Ari 11/23/22	Arizona/Toronto	27	2	12	14	8
William Villeneuve	21	6-2	184	Right	Sherbrooke, Que.	122nd overall (2020)	Toronto (AHL)	54	3	22	25	32
CENTERS	**AGE**	**HT.**	**WT.**	**SHOOTS**	**BORN**	**ACQUIRED**	**2022-23**	**GP**	**G**	**A**	**P**	**PIM**
Nick Abruzzese	24	5-11	183	Left	Slate Hill, N,Y,	124th overall (2019)	Toronto (AHL)	69	16	32	48	18
Semyon Der-Arguchintsev	23	5-10	173	Right	Moscow, Rus.	76th overall (2018)	Toronto (AHL)	50	12	28	40	16
Max Domi	28	5-10	194	Left	Winnipeg, Man.	Free Agent: signed 7/2/23	Chicago/Dallas	80	20	36	56	82
Dylan Gambrell	27	5-11	185	Right	Bonney Lake, Wash.	Free Agent: signed 7/3/23	Ottawa	60	4	6	10	35
Roni Hirvonen	21	5-9	164	Left	Espoo, Fin.	59th overall (2020)	HIFK (Fin.)	57	15	13	28	32
Calle Jarnkrok	32	6-0	192	Right	Gavle, Swe.	Free Agent: signed 7/15/22	Toronto	73	20	19	39	14
David Kampf	28	6-2	197	Left	Chomutov, Cze.	Free Agent: signed 7/28/21	Toronto	82	7	20	27	8
Braeden Kressler	20	5-9	165	Right	Kitchener, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 10/2/21	Flint (OHL)	47	25	27	52	18
Sam Lafferty	28	6-1	195	Right	Hollidaysburg, Pa.	Trade: Chi 2/27/23	Chicago/Toronto	70	12	15	27	37
Hudson Malinoski	19	6-0	175	Left	Saskatoon, Sask.	153rd overall (2023)	Brooks (AJHL)	44	16	53	69	12
Auston Matthews	26	6-3	208	Left	San Ramon, Calif.	1st overall (2016)	Toronto	74	40	45	85	20
Bobby McMann	27	6-2	208	Left	Wainwright, Alta.	Free Agent: signed 4/29/22	Toronto (AHL)	30	21	8	29	16
Joe Miller	21	5-8	147	Right	Minneapolis, Minn.	180th overall (2020)	Harvard (ECAC)	33	13	15	28	6
Fraser Minten	19	6-1	185	Left	Vancouver, B.C.	38th overall (2022)	Kamloops (WHL)	57	31	36	67	55
Dmitry Ovchinnikov	21	5-11	161	Left	Chita, Rus.	137th overall (2020)	Novosibirsk (KHL)	68	5	8	13	8
Wyatt Schingoethe	21	5-10	200	Left	Algonquin, Ill.	195th overall (2020)	Western Michigan (NCHC)	9	1	1	2	2
Alex Steeves	23	6-0	196	Left	St. Paul, Minn.	Free Agent: signed 3/29/21	Toronto (AHL)	65	19	32	51	28
John Tavares	33	6-1	216	Left	Mississauga, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/18	Toronto	80	36	44	80	34
Ryan Tverberg	21	5-10	168	Right	Richmond Hill, Ont.	213th overall (2020)	Connecticut (HE)	35	15	15	30	34
LEFT WINGERS	**AGE**	**HT.**	**WT.**	**SHOOTS**	**BORN**	**ACQUIRED**	**2022-23**	**GP**	**G**	**A**	**P**	**PIM**
Rodion Amirov	21	6-0	167	Left	Salavat, Rus.	15th overall (2020)	Ufa (KHL)			DNP		
Tyler Bertuzzi	28	6-1	186	Left	Sudbury, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/2/23	Detroit/Boston	50	8	22	30	29
Vladimir Bobylev	26	6-2	202	Left	Lipetsk, Rus.	122nd overall (2016)	Tambov (Rus.2)	43	8	7	15	30
Nikolai Chebykin	26	6-4	223	Left	Moscow, Rus.	182nd overall (2016)	Vladivostok (KHL)	63	14	12	26	37
Kyle Clifford	32	6-2	217	Left	Ayr, Ont.	Trade: StL 11/16/21	Toronto (AHL)	46	8	12	20	78
Vladislav Kara	25	6-1	187	Left	Salekhard, Rus.	124th overall (2017)	Vityaz Moscow Region (KHL)	67	20	15	35	11
Matthew Knies	20	6-2	210	Left	Phoenix, Ariz.	57th overall (2021)	Minnesota (Big Ten)	40	21	21	42	29
Brandon Lisowsky	19	5-8	171	Left	Port Coquitlam, B.C.	218th overall (2022)	Saskatoon (WHL)	65	38	33	71	36
Nick Robertson	22	5-9	183	Left	Pasadena, Calif.	53rd overall (2019)	Toronto	15	2	3	5	0
Ty Voit	20	5-10	161	Right	Pittsburgh, Pa.	153rd overall (2021)	Sarnia (OHL)	67	24	81	105	22
RIGHT WINGERS	**AGE**	**HT.**	**WT.**	**SHOOTS**	**BORN**	**ACQUIRED**	**2022-23**	**GP**	**G**	**A**	**P**	**PIM**
Easton Cowan	18	5-11	170	Left	Strathroy, Ont.	28th overall (2023)	London (OHL)	68	20	33	53	47
Max Ellis	23	5-9	171	Right	Plymouth, Mich.	Free Agent: signed 4/8/22	Toronto (AHL)	49	10	10	20	20
Nikita Grebenkin	20	6-2	183	Left	Serov, Rus.	135th overall (2022)	Magnitogorsk/Khabarovsk (KHL)	52	9	17	26	6
Pontus Holmberg	24	6-0	202	Left	Vasteras, Swe.	156th overall (2018)	Toronto (AHL)	38	10	12	22	18
Semyon Kizimov	23	6-0	176	Left	Togliatti, Rus.	211th overall (2018)	Verkhnyaya Pyshma (Rus.2)	26	7	13	20	37
Mitch Marner	26	6-0	181	Right	Markham, Ont.	4th overall (2015)	Toronto	80	30	69	99	28
Veeti Miettinen	22	5-9	161	Left	Espoo, Fin.	168th overall (2020)	St. Cloud State (NCHC)	41	12	24	36	0
Nicholas Moldenhauer	19	5-10	170	Right	Oakville, Ont.	95th overall (2022)	Chicago (USHL)	55	30	45	75	18
William Nylander	27	6-0	204	Right	Calgary, Alta.	8th overall (2014)	Toronto	82	40	47	87	28
Ryan Reaves	36	6-2	225	Right	Winnipeg, Man.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	NY Rangers/Minnesota	73	5	10	15	43

VANCOUVER CANUCKS

ELIAS PETTERSSON

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BY **BEN KUZMA**

THERE WAS GOING TO be a rebuild to prop up a back end that wasn't structurally sound. However, the extreme extent to which the Canucks addressed their defensive deficiencies was like taking a house down to the studs. When, for the seventh time in eight years, Vancouver failed to make the playoffs, it was demolition time.

Quinn Hughes and Tucker Poolman are the lone remaining members of Vancouver's D-corps from opening night last season (although it should be noted Tyler Myers was on IR at the time). Oliver Ekman-Larsson was bought out and went to Florida as a UFA. Luke Schenn and Riley Stillman were traded at the deadline (to Toronto and Buffalo, respectively). Kyle Burroughs left for San Jose in free agency, and even Poolman remains a long-term IR candidate with career-threatening migraine headaches. The remake continued as Ethan Bear was left unqualified after off-season shoulder surgery and became a UFA, and Travis Dermott also didn't receive a qualifying offer after being limited to 11 games following a pre-season concussion. In addition, the Canucks maintained a defense-first posture at the NHL draft, taking four blueliners with their seven picks. And then came free agency, with the blueline additions of Ian Cole, Carson Soucy and Matt Irwin.

>OFFENSE

Elias Pettersson had a career year, with a team-leading 102 points to finish 10th in NHL scoring. Vancouver needs J.T. Miller to build on a strong 82-point campaign, Andrei Kuzmenko to prove his 39 goals and 74 points were no fluke and Hughes to continue to dazzle. Hughes' 69 assists were a franchise record for D-men and ranked second

2022-23 NUMBERS

RECORD
38-37-7 (.506)

OVERTIME
8-5

SHOOTOUT
6-2

OVERALL
22nd

OFFENSE
3.29 GPG (13th)

DEFENSE
3.61 GAA (25th)

POWER PLAY
22.7% (11th)

PENALTY KILL
71.6% (32nd)

CORSI FOR/60
50.98 (27th)

CORSI AGAINST/60
56.07 (16th)

ICE TIME LEAD (F)
J. Miller (20:41)

ICE TIME LEAD (D)
Q. Hughes (25:40)

FAST FACTS

COACH
Rick Tocchet

GM
Patrik Allvin

ARENA
Rogers Arena

CAPACITY
18,910

AHL AFFILIATE
Abbotsford Canucks

ECHL AFFILIATE
Kalamazoo Wings

PLAYOFF RECORD
10-7 (since 2019)

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VANCOUVER CANUCKS

HUGHES: SERGEI BELSKI-USA TODAY SPORTS

among all NHL blueliners last season. Hughes' 76 points also tied him for second in the NHL among 'D,' and were another franchise blueline record.

>DEFENSE

Hughes will trigger the transition and benefit defensively in an expected top pairing with two-time Stanley Cup-champion Cole. Add Soucy and a healthy Filip Hronek, who was shut down in late March to heal a lingering shoulder injury, and the top four will be an improvement. Myers figures to start the season on the third pairing, while Irwin, Christian Wolanin, Akito Hirose, Guillaume Brisebois and Noah Juulsen battle for depth jobs.

>GOALTENDING

Thatcher Demko's resolve after struggling early and then sustaining a groin injury on Dec. 1 was evident in his 34-save return performance in Dallas Feb. 27. After missing 35 games, Demko was often under siege in the 5-4 OT win. It helped salvage an average season, in which Demko produced a 14-14-4 record, 3.16 goals-against average and .901 save percentage. Spencer Martin should serve as backup, but he'll be pushed by Arturs Silovs, 22, who had stellar AHL stats – 26-12-5, 2.44 GAA, .909 SP, four shutouts – and also went 3-2-0 with the Canucks with a 2.75 GAA and .908 SP. Silovs also led Latvia to its first World Championship medal (a bronze). He went 7-3-0 with a 2.20 GAA, .921 SP and was named tournament MVP.

>SPECIAL TEAMS

The Canucks ranked 11th on the power play last season. They scored more than one goal with the man advantage 15 times, but they were also blanked on 36 occasions. Kuzmenko's 14 PP goals tied for 14th in the league. Miller had 11 PP goals, but Pettersson had just six despite ample chances to unleash his one-timer. The Canucks often tried to set up the perfect goal, and they gave up a league-high 14 shorthanded goals. The last-place penalty kill (71.6 percent) will benefit from Cole, Soucy and UFA arrival Teddy Blueger.

>INTANGIBLES

Right winger Ilya Mikheyev will return after undergoing season-ending surgery in February. He'll add speed, two-way play and at least 20 to 25 goals. The pressure is on for Anthony Beauvillier, who came over in the Bo Horvat trade, to surpass 20 goals for the first time since 2017-18. The carrot is also being dangled for wingers Nils Hoglander and Vasily Podkolzin to build on solid AHL seasons and push for roster spots.

CUP ODDS

50/1

>ROOKIES

There's a glut of wingers, but what Linus Karlsson did last season is hard to ignore. After getting a long look in camp, he turned a rookie transition from Sweden to the AHL into a tour de force. He led Abbotsford forwards in scoring, with 24 goals and 49 points, and he improved aspects of his game that scream NHL potential.

>X-FACTOR

Breaking briskly from the gate would set the tone nicely. The Canucks play five of their first six games away from Rogers Arena and nine of their first 15 on the road. Last season, they lost their first three road games and were 0-5-2 overall before finally posting their first win. By then, the hole was dug.

>THE BRASS

All eyes are on coach Rick Tocchet. He bemoaned a lack of practice time upon arrival, questioned the team's fitness level and often publicly took issue with play away from the puck and a lack of team bite. A full training camp must result in a collective want and will.

DEPTH CHART | 2023-24

LEFT WING	CENTER	RIGHT WING
1. Andrei Kuzmenko	1. Elias Pettersson	1. Brock Boeser
2. Anthony Beauvillier	2. J.T. Miller	2. Conor Garland
3. Tanner Pearson (INJURED)	3. Jack Studnicka	3. Ilya Mikheyev
4. Dakota Joshua	4. Teddy Blueger	4. Phillip Di Giuseppe
5. Sheldon Dries	5. Nils Aman	5. Linus Karlsson

DEFENSE		GOALIE
1. Quinn Hughes	6. Matt Irwin	1. Thatcher Demko
2. Filip Hronek	7. Christian Wolanin	2. Spencer Martin
3. Tyler Myers	8. Akito Hirose	3. Arturs Silovs
4. Ian Cole	9. Tucker Poolman (INJURED)	(INJURED)
5. Carson Soucy	10. Guillaume Brisebois	(INDICATES NEW ARRIVAL)

KEY DEPARTURES & UNSIGNED UFAs Oliver Ekman-Larsson, D; Kyle Burroughs, D; Ethan Bear, D; Travis Dermott, D; Collin Delia, G

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FUTURE WATCH

THE LAST TWO GREAT Canucks picks were Elias Pettersson and Quinn Hughes, though we're starting to see late-round gems Aidan McDonough and Arturs Silovs come to the fore. For the second straight season, Vancouver went to Sweden first, selecting Boston University-bound defenseman Tom Willander in 2023 after taking right winger Jonathan Lekkerimaki in 2022. After a disappointing WJC, Lekkerimaki finished off strong in Sweden with a bountiful playoff performance.

TOP 10 PROSPECTS

1. Tom Willander, D
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Rogle Jr. (Swe.)
Impressive puck skills for a blueliner, and he can quarterback a power play. Headed to the NCAA.
Acquired 11th overall, 2023 **NHL** '26-27

2. Aatu Raty, C
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Abbotsford (AHL)
Adjusted well to AHL in first season stateside. Uses his physicality well and has a heavy shot.
Acquired From NYI, Jan. 30, 2023 **NHL** '24-25

3. Jonathan Lekkerimaki, RW
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Djurgarden (Swe.2)
Quick and cagey to create offense. He's moving up to Sweden's top tier with plenty to prove.
Acquired 15th overall, 2022 **NHL** '26-27

4. Hunter Brzustewicz, D
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Kitchener (OHL)
Two NTDP seasons aided his defensive development without stripping him of his offensive flair.
Acquired 75th overall, 2023 **NHL** '27-28

5. Linus Karlsson, C
Age 23 **2022-23 Team** Abbotsford (AHL)
Rocketed into NHL roster contention with standout SHL and AHL seasons in back-to-back years.
Acquired From SJ, Feb. 25, 2019 **NHL** '24-25

6. Arturs Silovs, G
Age 22 **2022-23 Team** Abbotsford (AHL)
Big keeper uses size to his advantage and continues to impress. Will challenge for bigger role.
Acquired 156th overall, 2019 **NHL** '24-25

7. Jack Rathbone, D
Age 24 **2022-23 Team** Abbotsford (AHL)
Skilled puck-mover flitted between NHL and AHL last season. Injuries have hindered development.
Acquired 95th overall, 2017 **NHL** '23-24

8. Danila Klimovich, RW
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Abbotsford (AHL)
Progressed well in sophomore AHL season. Physical winger goes to tough, high-scoring areas.
Acquired 41st overall, 2021 **NHL** '25-26

9. Aidan McDonough, LW
Age 23 **2022-23 Team** Northeastern (HE)
Six-game NHL audition after ending NCAA career. A stint in the AHL would aid his development.
Acquired 195th overall, 2019 **NHL** '24-25

10. Sawyer Mynio, D
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Seattle (WHL)
Quality in all three zones and possesses good speed and footwork. He'll need time to marinate.
Acquired 89th overall, 2023 **NHL** '27-28

SCHEDULE | 2023-24

Wed, Oct 11	vs Edmonton	10:00 PM
Sat, Oct 14	@ Edmonton	10:00 PM
Tue, Oct 17	@ Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Thu, Oct 19	@ Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Sat, Oct 21	@ Florida	7:00 PM
Tue, Oct 24	@ Nashville	9:15 PM
Fri, Oct 27	vs St. Louis	10:00 PM
Sat, Oct 28	vs NY Rangers	10:00 PM
Tue, Oct 31	vs Nashville	10:30 PM
Thu, Nov 2	@ San Jose	10:30 PM
Sat, Nov 4	vs Dallas	10:00 PM
Mon, Nov 6	vs Edmonton	10:00 PM
Thu, Nov 9	@ Ottawa	7:00 PM
Sat, Nov 11	@ Toronto	7:00 PM
Sun, Nov 12	@ Montreal	7:00 PM
Wed, Nov 15	vs NY Islanders	10:30 PM
Thu, Nov 16	@ Calgary	9:00 PM
Sat, Nov 18	vs Seattle	10:00 PM
Mon, Nov 20	vs San Jose	10:00 PM
Wed, Nov 22	@ Colorado	10:00 PM
Fri, Nov 24	@ Seattle	10:00 PM
Sat, Nov 25	@ San Jose	10:00 PM
Tue, Nov 28	vs Anaheim	10:00 PM
Thu, Nov 30	vs Vegas	10:00 PM
Sat, Dec 2	@ Calgary	10:00 PM
Tue, Dec 5	vs New Jersey	10:00 PM
Thu, Dec 7	vs Minnesota	10:00 PM
Sat, Dec 9	vs Carolina	10:00 PM
Tue, Dec 12	vs Tampa Bay	10:00 PM
Thu, Dec 14	vs Florida	10:00 PM
Sat, Dec 16	@ Minnesota	4:00 PM
Sun, Dec 17	@ Chicago	3:00 PM
Tue, Dec 19	@ Nashville	8:00 PM
Thu, Dec 21	@ Dallas	8:00 PM
Sat, Dec 23	vs San Jose	10:00 PM
Thu, Dec 28	vs Philadelphia	10:00 PM
Tue, Jan 2	vs Ottawa	10:00 PM
Thu, Jan 4	@ St. Louis	8:00 PM
Sat, Jan 6	@ New Jersey	7:00 PM
Mon, Jan 8	@ NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Tue, Jan 9	@ NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Thu, Jan 11	@ Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Sat, Jan 13	@ Buffalo	4:00 PM
Mon, Jan 15	@ Columbus	1:00 PM
Thu, Jan 18	vs Arizona	10:00 PM
Sat, Jan 20	vs Toronto	7:00 PM
Mon, Jan 22	vs Chicago	10:00 PM
Wed, Jan 24	vs St. Louis	10:00 PM
Sat, Jan 27	vs Columbus	10:00 PM
Tue, Feb 6	@ Carolina	7:00 PM
Thu, Feb 8	@ Boston	7:00 PM
Sat, Feb 10	@ Detroit	1:00 PM
Sun, Feb 11	@ Washington	1:30 PM
Tue, Feb 13	@ Chicago	8:30 PM
Thu, Feb 15	vs Detroit	10:00 PM
Sat, Feb 17	vs Winnipeg	10:00 PM
Mon, Feb 19	@ Minnesota	2:00 PM
Tue, Feb 20	@ Colorado	9:00 PM
Thu, Feb 22	@ Seattle	10:00 PM
Sat, Feb 24	vs Boston	7:00 PM
Tue, Feb 27	vs Pittsburgh	10:00 PM
Thu, Feb 29	vs Los Angeles	10:00 PM
Sun, Mar 3	@ Anaheim	8:00 PM
Tue, Mar 5	@ Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Thu, Mar 7	@ Vegas	10:00 PM
Sat, Mar 9	vs Winnipeg	10:00 PM
Wed, Mar 13	vs Colorado	10:30 PM
Sat, Mar 16	vs Washington	10:00 PM
Tue, Mar 19	vs Buffalo	10:00 PM
Thu, Mar 21	vs Montreal	10:00 PM
Sat, Mar 23	vs Calgary	10:00 PM
Mon, Mar 25	vs Los Angeles	9:00 PM
Thu, Mar 28	vs Dallas	10:00 PM
Sun, Mar 31	vs Anaheim	3:30 PM
Tue, Apr 2	@ Vegas	10:00 PM
Wed, Apr 3	@ Arizona	10:00 PM
Sat, Apr 6	@ Los Angeles	10:00 PM
Mon, Apr 8	vs Vegas	10:00 PM
Wed, Apr 10	vs Arizona	10:30 PM
Sat, Apr 13	@ Edmonton	10:00 PM
Tue, Apr 16	vs Calgary	10:00 PM
Thu, Apr 18	@ Winnipeg	8:00 PM

WILLANDER: RÖGLE BK; DEMKO: BOB FRID-USA TODAY SPORTS

ORGANIZATIONAL ROSTER

VANCOUVER CANUCKS

GOALIES	AGE	HT.	WT.	CATCHES	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	W-L-OT	GAA	SP
Thatcher Demko	27	6-4	192	Left	San Diego, Calif.	36th overall (2014)	Vancouver	32	14-14-4	3.16	.901
Aku Koskenvuo	20	6-4	173	Left	Espoo, Fin.	137th overall (2021)	Harvard (ECAC)	2	1-1-0	3.56	.875
Spencer Martin	28	6-3	191	Left	Oakville, Ont.	Trade: TB 7/31/21	Vancouver	29	11-15-1	3.99	.871
Zach Sawchenko	25	6-1	185	Left	Calgary, Alta.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Chicago (AHL)	41	17-18-3	3.10	.895
Arturs Silovs	22	6-4	203	Left	Riga, Lat.	156th overall (2019)	Abbotsford (AHL)	44	26-12-5	2.44	.909
Matthew Thiessen	23	6-2	192	Left	Steinbach, Man.	192nd overall (2018)	Minnesota-Duluth (NCHC)	19	8-9-0	2.64	.905
Nikita Tolopilo	23	6-6	229	Left	Minsk, Blr.	Free Agent: signed 3/31/23	Sodertalje (Swe.2)	45	28-17-0	2.10	.924
Ty Young	19	6-3	181	Left	Calgary, Alta.	144th overall (2022)	Prince George (WHL)	34	15-13-3	3.89	.889
DEFENSEMEN	**AGE**	**HT.**	**WT.**	**SHOOTS**	**BORN**	**ACQUIRED**	**2022-23**	**GP**	**G**	**A**	**P**	**PIM**
Guillaume Brisebois	26	6-2	175	Left	Longueuil, Que.	66th overall (2015)	Abbotsford (AHL)	36	1	5	6	11
Hunter Brzustewicz	18	6-0	190	Right	Washington, Mich.	75th overall (2023)	Kitchener (OHL)	68	6	51	57	12
Aiden Celebrini	18	6-1	187	Right	Vancouver, B.C.	171st overall (2023)	Brooks (AJHL)	47	5	16	21	82
Ian Cole	34	6-1	225	Left	Ann Arbor, Mich.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Tampa Bay	78	3	14	17	61
Jackson Dorrington	19	6-2	192	Left	Manchester, N.H.	176th overall (2022)	Northeastern (HE)	35	0	6	6	23
Hugo Gabrielson	20	6-1	172	Left	Gothenburg, Swe.	169th overall (2021)	Vastervik (Swe.2)	35	0	6	6	8
Akito Hirose	24	6-0	170	Left	Calgary, Alta.	Free Agent: signed 3/29/23	Minnesota State (CCHA)	38	4	23	27	18
Filip Hronek	25	6-0	190	Right	Hradec Kralove, Cze.	Trade: Det 3/1/23	Detroit/Vancouver	64	9	30	39	34
Quinn Hughes	23	5-10	180	Left	Orlando, Fla.	7th overall (2018)	Vancouver	78	7	69	76	34
Matt Irwin	35	6-2	200	Left	Victoria, B.C.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Washington	61	2	3	5	36
Filip Johansson	23	6-1	176	Right	Vasteras, Swe.	Free Agent: signed 6/13/22	Frolunda (Swe.)	51	5	16	21	8
Joni Jurmo	21	6-3	190	Left	Espoo, Fin.	82nd overall (2020)	Jukurit (Fin.)	52	5	8	13	38
Noah Juulsen	26	6-2	201	Right	Surrey, B.C.	Trade: Fla 10/10/21	Abbotsford (AHL)	49	3	17	20	34
Kirill Kudryavtsev	19	5-11	200	Left	Yaroslavl, Rus.	208th overall (2022)	Sault Ste. Marie (OHL)	67	8	42	50	14
Cole McWard	22	6-1	192	Right	Fenton, Mo.	Free Agent: signed 4/4/23	Ohio State (Big Ten)	39	9	12	21	8
Tyler Myers	33	6-8	229	Right	Houston, Texas	Free Agent: signed 7/1/19	Vancouver	78	1	16	17	76
Sawyer Mynio	18	6-1	173	Left	Kamloops, B.C.	89th overall (2023)	Seattle (WHL)	68	5	26	31	40
Viktor Persson	21	6-2	192	Right	Hedesunda, Swe.	191st overall (2020)	Pelicans (Fin.)	24	0	3	3	10
Elias Pettersson	19	6-2	185	Left	Vasteras, Swe.	80th overall (2022)	Orebro (Swe.)	43	1	6	7	6
Tucker Poolman	30	6-2	199	Right	Dubuque, Iowa	Free Agent: signed 7/28/21	Vancouver	3	0	1	1	0
Jack Rathbone	24	5-10	177	Left	Boston, Mass.	95th overall (2017)	Abbotsford (AHL)	37	5	9	14	12
Carson Soucy	29	6-5	208	Left	Viking, Alta.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Seattle	78	3	13	16	68
Jacob Truscott	21	6-1	170	Left	Port Huron, Mich.	144th overall (2020)	Michigan (Big Ten)	23	4	12	16	12
Tom Willander	18	6-1	180	Right	Stockholm, Swe.	11th overall (2023)	Rogle Jr. (Swe.)	39	4	21	25	22
Christian Wolanin	28	6-2	190	Left	Quebec City, Que.	Free Agent: signed 7/14/22	Abbotsford (AHL)	49	6	49	55	22
Jett Woo	23	6-0	205	Right	Winnipeg, Man.	37th overall (2018)	Abbotsford (AHL)	68	7	14	21	96
CENTERS	**AGE**	**HT.**	**WT.**	**SHOOTS**	**BORN**	**ACQUIRED**	**2022-23**	**GP**	**G**	**A**	**P**	**PIM**
Nils Aman	23	6-2	179	Left	Avesta, Swe.	Free Agent: signed 6/7/22	Vancouver	68	4	12	16	18
Teddy Blueger	29	6-0	185	Left	Riga, Lat.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Pittsburgh/Vegas	63	4	12	16	30
Sheldon Dries	29	5-9	180	Left	Macomb, Mich.	Free Agent: signed 7/28/21	Vancouver	63	11	6	17	29
Daimon Gardner	19	6-4	200	Left	Eagle Lake, Ont.	112th overall (2022)	Tri-City (USHL)	46	12	30	42	14
Dakota Joshua	27	6-3	206	Left	Dearborn, Mich.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Vancouver	79	11	12	23	60
Linus Karlsson	23	6-1	178	Right	Eksjo, Swe.	Trade: SJ 2/25/19	Abbotsford (AHL)	72	24	25	49	72
J.T. Miller	30	6-1	218	Left	East Palestine, Ohio	Trade: TB 6/22/19	Vancouver	81	32	50	82	60
Ty Mueller	20	5-11	185	Left	Edmonton, Alta.	105th overall (2023)	Neb.-Omaha (NCHC)	34	12	13	25	4
Tristen Nielsen	23	5-10	192	Left	Fort St. John, B.C.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Abbotsford (AHL)	64	14	27	41	60
Matthew Perkins	19	5-11	156	Left	Regina, Sask.	119th overall (2023)	Youngstown (USHL)	60	15	29	44	77
Elias Pettersson	24	6-2	176	Left	Sundsvall, Swe.	5th overall (2017)	Vancouver	80	39	63	102	14
Aatu Raty	20	6-2	190	Left	Oulu, Fin.	Trade: NYI 1/30/23	Bridgeport/Abbotsford (AHL)	52	9	18	27	18
Max Sasson	23	6-1	181	Left	Birmingham, Mich.	Free Agent: signed 3/26/23	Western Michigan (NCHC)	38	15	27	42	18
Jack Studnicka	24	6-1	187	Right	Windsor, Ont.	Trade: Bos 10/27/22	Boston/Vancouver	48	4	4	8	16
Dmitry Zhukenov	26	5-11	169	Right	Omsk, Rus.	114th overall (2015)	Verkhnyaya Pyshma (Rus.2)	32	8	9	17	18
Dmitry Zlodeyev	21	5-11	185	Left	Voronezh, Rus.	175th overall (2020)	Voskresensk (Rus.2)	33	7	6	13	7
LEFT WINGERS	**AGE**	**HT.**	**WT.**	**SHOOTS**	**BORN**	**ACQUIRED**	**2022-23**	**GP**	**G**	**A**	**P**	**PIM**
Vilmer Alriksson	18	6-6	214	Left	Stockholm, Swe.	107th overall (2023)	Djurgarden Jr. (Swe.)	43	12	9	21	22
Arshdeep Bains	22	6-0	184	Left	Surrey, B.C.	Free Agent: signed 3/11/22	Abbotsford (AHL)	66	13	25	38	28
Anthony Beauvillier	26	5-11	180	Left	Sorel-Tracy, Que.	Trade: NYI 1/30/23	NY Islanders/Vancouver	82	18	22	40	24
Josh Bloom	20	6-2	182	Left	Oakville, Ont.	Trade: Buf 2/27/23	Saginaw/North Bay (OHL)	68	32	39	71	48
Phillip Di Giuseppe	29	6-0	193	Left	Toronto, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/28/21	Abbotsford (AHL)	37	13	19	32	29
Lucas Forsell	20	6-0	161	Right	Vasteras, Swe.	201st overall (2021)	Farjestad (Swe.)	35	11	2	13	10
Nils Hoglander	22	5-9	185	Left	Bocktrask, Swe.	40th overall (2019)	Abbotsford (AHL)	45	14	18	32	44
Jackson Kunz	21	6-3	210	Left	Lincoln, Neb.	113th overall (2020)	North Dakota (NCHC)	24	5	0	5	10
Andrei Kuzmenko	27	5-11	194	Right	Yakutsk, Rus.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Vancouver	81	39	35	74	8
Aidan McDonough	23	6-3	190	Left	Milton, Mass.	195th overall (2019)	Northeastern (HE)	34	20	18	38	14
Tanner Pearson	31	6-1	201	Left	Kitchener, Ont.	Trade: Pit 2/25/19	Vancouver	14	1	4	5	21
RIGHT WINGERS	**AGE**	**HT.**	**WT.**	**SHOOTS**	**BORN**	**ACQUIRED**	**2022-23**	**GP**	**G**	**A**	**P**	**PIM**
Brock Boeser	26	6-1	208	Right	Burnsville, Minn.	23rd overall (2015)	Vancouver	74	18	37	55	24
Conor Garland	27	5-10	165	Right	Scituate, Mass.	Trade: Ari 7/23/21	Vancouver	81	17	29	46	31
Lukas Jasek	26	5-11	165	Right	Trinec, Cze.	174th overall (2015)	Pelicans (Fin.)	57	18	21	39	53
Danila Klimovich	20	6-2	202	Right	Pinsk, Blr.	41st overall (2021)	Abbotsford (AHL)	67	17	12	29	53
Vitali Kravtsov	23	6-3	186	Left	Vladivostok, Rus.	Trade: NYR 2/25/23	NY Rangers/Vancouver	44	4	4	8	10
Jonathan Lekkerimaki	19	5-11	172	Right	Tullinge, Swe.	15th overall (2022)	Djurgarden (Swe.2)	29	3	6	9	4
Jack Malone	22	6-1	191	Right	Danville, Calif.	180th overall (2019)	Cornell (ECAC)	34	8	9	17	6
Artyom Manukyan	25	5-7	139	Right	Omsk, Rus.	186th overall (2018)	Ryazan/Togliatti/AKM Tula (Rus.2)	17	0	2	2	2
Ilya Mikheyev	28	6-2	192	Left	Omsk, Rus.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Vancouver	46	13	15	28	2
Karel Plasek	23	5-11	154	Left	Prerov, Cze.	175th overall (2019)	Olomouc (Cze.)	31	6	9	15	10
Vasily Podkolzin	22	6-1	190	Left	Moscow, Rus.	10th overall (2019)	Vancouver	39	4	3	7	9

VEGAS GOLDEN KNIGHTS

MARK STONE

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BY **SCOTT ZERR**

THE GOLDEN KNIGHTS HIT hockey's jackpot last season, winning the Stanley Cup in just their sixth year of existence. Now, the challenge becomes striking it rich a second time. As reigning champions, the target is on their back, and the Golden Knights will have plenty of hunters aiming right at them. To fend them off, Vegas need only look back upon its playoff success for tips and guidelines on how to play at an elite level.

The Golden Knights face the quest of a repeat with an extensive list of rivals, but, due to salary-cap constraints, they do so with minimal room to improve their lineup. At the same time, facing those same issues a year ago only served as a catalyst, not a hindrance. In years past, Vegas went out and acquired numerous expensive pieces to achieve its goal yet still fell short. Now, the Knights enter a season with a grip on the game's greatest treasure. The question now is how to keep it.

>OFFENSE

Jack Eichel hit a new level in the playoffs, and if he carries that into this season, he's going to find himself being an MVP candidate. Being tight to the cap cost Vegas an 'Original Misfit' in Reilly Smith, but his departure cleared enough space to re-sign Ivan Barbashev, who fit in perfectly with the Knights. Jonathan Marchessault, William Karlsson and Chandler Stephenson will continue to be clutch contributors. The conundrum ahead is how much of a factor Mark Stone will be due to his ongoing back issues. If Stone's two-way talents are in the lineup consistently, the Knights have a high-end top-six unit. An extended absence would be a sizable challenge.

2022-23 NUMBERS

RECORD
51-22-9 (.677)

OVERTIME
8-5

SHOOTOUT
5-4

OVERALL
5th

OFFENSE
3.26 GPG (14th)

DEFENSE
2.74 GAA (11th)

POWER PLAY
20.3% (18th)

PENALTY KILL
77.4% (19th)

CORSI FOR/60
56.17 (20th)

CORSI AGAINST/60
60.50 (27th)

ICE TIME LEAD (F)
M. Stone (19:23)

ICE TIME LEAD (D)
A. Pietrangelo (23:59)

FAST FACTS

COACH
Bruce Cassidy

GM
Kelly McCrimmon

ARENA
T-Mobile Arena

CAPACITY
17,500

AHL AFFILIATE
Henderson Silver Knights

ECHL AFFILIATE
Savannah Ghost Pirates

PLAYOFF RECORD
38-27 (since 2019)

STONE: PERRY NELSON-USA TODAY SPORTS

VEGAS GOLDEN KNIGHTS

>DEFENSE

The Golden Knights have assembled one of the league's best defense corps, a unit that has the right mix of size, experience and skill. The group was outstanding in the playoffs, especially dominating Florida in the Cup final. Its two standouts, Alex Pietrangelo and Shea Theodore, have the complete tool kits, while Nic Hague and Zach Whitecloud rank as two of the top third-pairing 'D' anywhere. Alec Martinez and Brayden McNabb don't draw the headlines, but both were invaluable throughout the playoff run. The latter two, though, have hit the age when questions start to emerge about how much gas remains in the tank and what a succession plan looks like.

>GOALTENDING

While 26-year-old Logan Thompson's Calder Trophy candidacy fell short due to injury, the Knights appear to have a long-term solution in place with Thompson's rise. Adin Hill, 27, will ride the wave of his standout playoff performance to be the 1A of what is one of the league's best young duos. The biggest question here is health: Thompson's ailments of a year ago, Hill's past injury history and what becomes of former No. 1 Robin Lehner after hip and shoulder surgeries.

>SPECIAL TEAMS

On a lot of nights, Vegas could get itself out of a jam thanks to its special teams. But overall, the power play and penalty kill were merely middle-of-the-road during the regular season and playoffs. The power play has a pair of aces on the back end with Theodore and Pietrangelo, and a full season with triggerman Barbashev will bolster the unit's production. Eichel will be the main driver up front as both a sniper and a playmaker. On the other side, solidifying the play between the pipes with Thompson and Hill should give the penalty kill a lift, though that group's end results will largely rest on Stone's health.

>INTANGIBLES

A vital yet lesser-hyped aspect of the Golden Knights' quest for the Cup was their ability to play heavy when needed. They were able to wear opponents out with one of the league's best fourth lines – William Carrier, Nicolas Roy and Keegan Kolesar. Stone and Pietrangelo have the key leadership roles, plus there's still a touch of the original 'Misfits' magic thanks to Karlsson and playoff MVP Marchessault. Moves made throughout the past couple of seasons have virtually stripped the Knights of incoming prospects, so depth is a concern should a need arise.

CUP ODDS

15/1

>ROOKIES

Up against the cap, the Golden Knights are hoping a pair of prospects can make an impact and earn spots on the roster. Brendan Brisson, the highly touted 2020 first-rounder, will get a lengthy look for the third-line center job, while winger Pavel Dorofeyev sparked some offense with seven goals in 18 NHL games last season.

>X-FACTOR

There's no doubt the pressure to repeat will be intense, and that rests on the shoulders of the entire operation – from the management suite down to ice level. Security in net and the health status of Stone are key factors for the year ahead.

>THE BRASS

Bruce Cassidy went from taking the fall in Boston to the top of the heap guiding the Knights to the Cup. And after all his wheeling and dealing – some of it fairly contentious – GM Kelly McCrimmon proved his path was a winning one. Now the test becomes making a successful sequel.

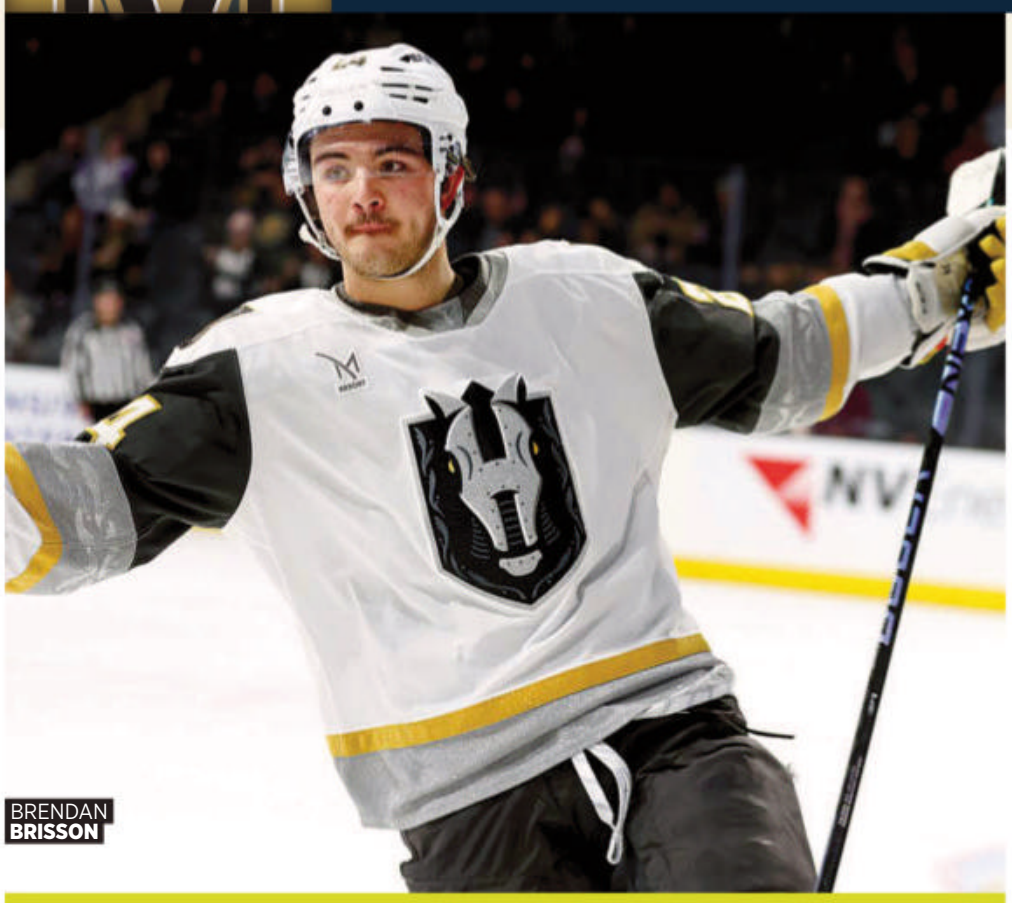
DEPTH CHART | 2023-24

LEFT WING	CENTER	RIGHT WING
1. Ivan Barbashev	1. Jack Eichel	1. Jonathan Marchessault
2. Brett Howden	2. Chandler Stephenson	2. Mark Stone
3. Pavel Dorofeyev	3. William Karlsson	3. Michael Amadio
4. William Carrier	4. Nicolas Roy	4. Keegan Kolesar
5. Paul Cotter	5. Brendan Brisson	5. Jonas Rondbjerg

DEFENSE		GOALIE
1. Alex Pietrangelo	6. Zach Whitecloud	1. Adin Hill
2. Shea Theodore	7. Ben Hutton	2. Logan Thompson
3. Alec Martinez	8. Kaedan Korczak	3. Robin Lehner
4. Brayden McNabb	9. Brayden Pachal	INJURED
5. Nic Hague	10. Daniil Miromanov	INDICATES NEW ARRIVAL

KEY DEPARTURES & UNSIGNED UFAs Reilly Smith, RW; Laurent Brossoit, G; Phil Kessel, RW; Jonathan Quick, G; Teddy Blueger, C; Nolan Patrick, C

EICHEL: BOB FRID-USA TODAY SPORTS



BRENDAN BRISSON

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FUTURE WATCH

GOING STRAIGHT TO THE top has made for a strange pipeline since Vegas joined the NHL. The Golden Knights had only one drafted player on their Stanley Cup roster, and that was big defenseman Nic Hague. Simply put, they haven't needed anyone to step up. Pavel Dorofeyev has seen spot duty, but otherwise, it's a tough lineup to crack. Top 2023 pick David Edstrom, a first-rounder, is a no-nonsense two-way player who really rose up the rankings in the second half.

TOP 10 PROSPECTS

1. Brendan Brisson, C
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** Henderson (AHL)
The elite skill is apparent. He's adjusting to the pro game in the AHL, but has NHL talent.
Acquired 29th overall, 2020 **NHL** '24-25

2. Lukas Cormier, D
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** Henderson (AHL)
Tremendous power-play quarterback with great instincts. Defensive game is still developing.
Acquired 68th overall, 2020 **NHL** '24-25

3. David Edstrom, C
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Frolunda Jr. (Swe.)
Frame suggests power forward, but he's a skilled playmaker with a responsible, two-way game.
Acquired 32nd overall, 2023 **NHL** '26-27

4. Kaedan Korczak, D
Age 22 **2022-23 Team** Henderson (AHL)
Defensive improvement has boosted his stock. He's on the shortlist to earn NHL minutes.
Acquired 41st overall, 2019 **NHL** '23-24

5. Pavel Dorofeyev, LW
Age 22 **2022-23 Team** Henderson (AHL)
Nine points in 18 NHL games last season. Sharp-shooting winger will get full-time opportunity.
Acquired 79th overall, 2019 **NHL** '23-24

6. Matyas Sapovaliv, C
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Saginaw (OHL)
A perimeter player who scans the rink and distributes, threading perfect passes with ease.
Acquired 48th overall, 2022 **NHL** '26-27

7. Jiri Patera, G
Age 24 **2022-23 Team** Henderson (AHL)
Shone in two-game stint in Vegas crease. No rush to get him into NHL paint full-time, though.
Acquired 161st overall, 2017 **NHL** '24-25

8. Mathieu Cataford, C
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Halifax (QMJHL)
He's strong on the puck and thinks the game well. That, not outright skill, is how he creates.
Acquired 77th overall, 2023 **NHL** '27-28

9. Daniil Chayka, D
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Henderson (AHL)
Disrupts plays in his space with a good stick. Ceiling is likely as a third-pairing blueliner.
Acquired 38th overall, 2021 **NHL** '25-26

10. Arttu Karki, D
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Tappara Jr. (Fin.)
Two-way 'D' had point-per-game output in break-out year and capped it with Finnish U-20 title.
Acquired 96th overall, 2023 **NHL** '28-29

SCHEDULE | 2023-24

Tue, Oct 10	vs Seattle	10:30 PM
Thu, Oct 12	@ San Jose	10:30 PM
Sat, Oct 14	vs Anaheim	10:00 PM
Tue, Oct 17	vs Dallas	10:30 PM
Thu, Oct 19	@ Winnipeg	8:00 PM
Sat, Oct 21	@ Chicago	8:00 PM
Tue, Oct 24	vs Philadelphia	11:00 PM
Fri, Oct 27	vs Chicago	6:00 PM
Sat, Oct 28	@ Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Mon, Oct 30	vs Montreal	10:00 PM
Thu, Nov 2	vs Winnipeg	10:00 PM
Sat, Nov 4	vs Colorado	10:00 PM
Sun, Nov 5	@ Anaheim	8:00 PM
Wed, Nov 8	vs Los Angeles	10:00 PM
Fri, Nov 10	vs San Jose	10:00 PM
Tue, Nov 14	@ Washington	7:00 PM
Thu, Nov 16	@ Montreal	7:00 PM
Sat, Nov 18	@ Philadelphia	1:00 PM
Sun, Nov 19	@ Pittsburgh	6:00 PM
Wed, Nov 22	@ Dallas	9:30 PM
Sat, Nov 25	vs Arizona	10:00 PM
Mon, Nov 27	@ Calgary	9:30 PM
Tue, Nov 28	@ Edmonton	9:00 PM
Thu, Nov 30	@ Vancouver	10:00 PM
Sat, Dec 2	vs Washington	10:00 PM
Mon, Dec 4	vs St. Louis	10:00 PM
Wed, Dec 6	@ St. Louis	9:00 PM
Sat, Dec 9	@ Dallas	4:00 PM
Sun, Dec 10	vs San Jose	10:00 PM
Tue, Dec 12	vs Calgary	10:00 PM
Fri, Dec 15	vs Buffalo	10:00 PM
Sun, Dec 17	vs Ottawa	8:00 PM
Tue, Dec 19	@ Carolina	7:00 PM
Thu, Dec 21	@ Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Sat, Dec 23	@ Florida	3:00 PM
Wed, Dec 27	@ Anaheim	10:00 PM
Thu, Dec 28	vs Los Angeles	10:00 PM
Mon, Jan 1	@ Seattle*	3:00 PM
Thu, Jan 4	vs Florida	10:00 PM
Sat, Jan 6	vs NY Islanders	10:00 PM
Wed, Jan 10	@ Colorado	10:00 PM
Thu, Jan 11	vs Boston	10:00 PM
Sat, Jan 13	vs Calgary	10:00 PM
Mon, Jan 15	vs Nashville	10:00 PM
Thu, Jan 18	vs NY Rangers	10:00 PM
Sat, Jan 20	vs Pittsburgh	10:00 PM
Mon, Jan 22	@ New Jersey	7:00 PM
Tue, Jan 23	@ NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Fri, Jan 26	@ NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Sat, Jan 27	@ Detroit	7:00 PM
Tue, Feb 6	vs Edmonton	10:00 PM
Thu, Feb 8	@ Arizona	9:00 PM
Mon, Feb 12	vs Minnesota	10:00 PM
Sat, Feb 17	vs Carolina	10:30 PM
Mon, Feb 19	@ San Jose	4:00 PM
Tue, Feb 20	vs Nashville	10:00 PM
Thu, Feb 22	vs Toronto	10:00 PM
Sat, Feb 24	@ Ottawa	7:00 PM
Tue, Feb 27	@ Toronto	7:00 PM
Thu, Feb 29	@ Boston	7:00 PM
Sat, Mar 2	@ Buffalo	7:00 PM
Mon, Mar 4	@ Columbus	7:00 PM
Thu, Mar 7	vs Vancouver	10:00 PM
Sat, Mar 9	vs Detroit	10:00 PM
Tue, Mar 12	@ Seattle	10:00 PM
Thu, Mar 14	@ Calgary	9:00 PM
Sun, Mar 17	vs New Jersey	3:30 PM
Tue, Mar 19	vs Tampa Bay	10:00 PM
Thu, Mar 21	vs Seattle	10:00 PM
Sat, Mar 23	vs Columbus	10:30 PM
Mon, Mar 25	@ St. Louis	8:00 PM
Tue, Mar 26	@ Nashville	8:00 PM
Thu, Mar 28	@ Winnipeg	8:00 PM
Sat, Mar 30	@ Minnesota	3:00 PM
Tue, Apr 2	vs Vancouver	10:00 PM
Fri, Apr 5	@ Arizona	10:00 PM
Mon, Apr 8	@ Vancouver	10:00 PM
Wed, Apr 10	@ Edmonton	8:30 PM
Fri, Apr 12	vs Minnesota	10:00 PM
Sun, Apr 14	vs Colorado	3:30 PM
Tue, Apr 16	vs Chicago	9:30 PM
Thu, Apr 18	vs Anaheim	10:00 PM

*Winter Classic

ALEX PIETRANGELO

BRISSON: ZAK KRILL OR HENDERSON SILVER KNIGHTS; PIETRANGELO: SERGEI BELSKI-USA TODAY SPORTS

ORGANIZATIONAL ROSTER

VEGAS GOLDEN KNIGHTS

GOALIES	AGE	HT.	WT.	CATCHES	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	W-L-OT	GAA	SP
Adin Hill	27	6-4	215	Left	Comox, B.C.	Trade: SJ 8/29/22	Vegas	27	16-7-1	2.50	.915
Robin Lehner	32	6-4	250	Left	Gothenburg, Swe.	Trade: Chi 2/24/20	Vegas		DNP		
Carl Lindbom	20	6-0	165	Left	Stockholm, Swe.	222nd overall (2021)	Djurgarden (Swe.2)	36	25-11-0	1.86	.930
Jiri Patera	24	6-2	209	Left	Prague, Cze.	161st overall (2017)	Henderson (AHL)	31	14-15-1	2.86	.911
Isaiah Saville	23	6-1	193	Right	Anchorage, Alaska	135th overall (2019)	Savannah (ECHL)	33	8-15-5	3.09	.920
Logan Thompson	26	6-4	205	Right	Calgary, Alta.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/20	Vegas	37	21-13-3	2.65	.915
Jesper Vikman	21	6-3	179	Left	Danderyd, Swe.	125th overall (2020)	Vancouver (WHL)	45	19-21-1	3.29	.903
Cameron Whitehead	20	6-3	170	Left	Orleans, Ont.	128th overall (2022)	Lincoln (USHL)	43	25-15-2	2.83	.904
DEFENSEMEN	**AGE**	**HT.**	**WT.**	**SHOOTS**	**BORN**	**ACQUIRED**	**2022-23**	**GP**	**G**	**A**	**P**	**PIM**
Layton Ahac	22	6-2	188	Left	Vancouver, B.C.	86th overall (2019)	Henderson (AHL)	34	1	3	4	16
Daniil Chayka	20	6-3	187	Left	Moscow, Rus.	38th overall (2021)	Henderson (AHL)	57	2	6	8	6
Artur Cholach	20	6-4	198	Left	Lviv, Ukr.	190th overall (2021)	Barrie (OHL)	60	3	18	21	20
Lukas Cormier	21	5-10	180	Left	Ste-Marie-de-Kent, N.B.	68th overall (2020)	Henderson (AHL)	62	10	25	35	44
Noah Ellis	21	6-2	191	Right	Urbandale, Iowa	184th overall (2020)	UMass (HE)	23	1	1	2	6
Joe Fleming	20	6-1	220	Right	Wellesley, Mass.	Free Agent: signed 9/29/22	Sherbrooke (QMJHL)	63	5	22	27	75
Mason Geertsen	28	6-4	227	Left	Drayton Valley, Alta.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Utica (AHL)	61	4	4	8	136
Nic Hague	24	6-6	230	Left	Kitchener, Ont.	34th overall (2017)	Vegas	81	3	14	17	51
Ben Hutton	30	6-3	201	Left	Brockville, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 10/28/21	Vegas	31	3	5	8	6
Arttu Karki	18	6-2	176	Left	Viiala, Fin.	96th overall (2023)	Tappara Jr. (Fin.)	36	13	26	39	24
Kaedan Korczak	22	6-3	202	Right	Yorkton, Sask.	41st overall (2019)	Henderson (AHL)	50	4	10	14	60
Alec Martinez	36	6-1	210	Left	Rochester Hills, Mich.	Trade: LA 2/19/20	Vegas	77	3	11	14	29
Dysin Mayo	27	6-2	183	Right	Victoria, B.C.	Trade: Ari 2/22/23	Tucson/Henderson (AHL)	43	3	8	11	28
Brayden McNabb	32	6-4	215	Left	Davidson, Sask.	Expansion: LA 6/21/17	Vegas	82	1	16	17	51
Daniil Miromanov	26	6-4	200	Right	Moscow, Rus.	Free Agent: signed 3/17/21	Henderson (AHL)	31	9	13	22	10
Brayden Pachal	24	6-2	203	Right	Estevan, Sask.	Free Agent: signed 9/20/19	Henderson (AHL)	55	3	12	15	90
Alex Pietrangelo	33	6-3	215	Right	King City, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 10/12/20	Vegas	73	11	43	54	16
Christoffer Sedoff	21	6-1	190	Left	Helsinki, Fin.	Free Agent: signed 3/2/23	Red Deer (WHL)	59	5	46	51	24
Shea Theodore	28	6-2	197	Left	Aldergrove, B.C.	Trade: Ana 6/21/17	Vegas (NHL)	55	8	33	41	18
Zach Whitecloud	26	6-2	207	Right	Brandon, Man.	Free Agent: signed 3/8/18	Vegas	59	5	7	12	41
Abram Wiebe	20	6-2	187	Left	Mission, B.C.	209th overall (2022)	Chilliwack (BCHL)	54	12	41	53	36
CENTERS	**AGE**	**HT.**	**WT.**	**SHOOTS**	**BORN**	**ACQUIRED**	**2022-23**	**GP**	**G**	**A**	**P**	**PIM**
Ivan Barbashev	27	6-1	195	Left	Moscow, Rus.	Trade: StL 2/26/23	St. Louis/Vegas	82	16	29	45	42
Jakub Brabenec	20	6-1	174	Left	Jihlava, Cze.	102nd overall (2021)	Charlottetown/Sherbrooke (QMJHL)	54	18	42	60	26
Brendan Brisson	21	5-11	179	Left	Los Angeles, Calif.	29th overall (2020)	Henderson (AHL)	58	18	19	37	56
Mathieu Cataford	18	5-11	190	Right	Chateauguay, Que.	77th overall (2023)	Halifax (QMJHL)	68	31	44	75	66
Paul Cotter	23	6-2	212	Left	Canton, Mich.	115th overall (2018)	Vegas	55	13	5	18	15
Jakub Demek	20	6-4	196	Left	Kosice, Svk.	128th overall (2021)	Kamloops (WHL)	15	4	7	11	14
Ryder Donovan	22	6-3	184	Right	Duluth, Minn.	110th overall (2019)	Vermont (HE)			DNP		
David Edstrom	18	6-3	185	Left	Gothenburg, Swe.	32nd overall (2023)	Frolunda Jr. (Swe.)	28	15	13	28	12
Jack Eichel	26	6-2	207	Right	North Chelmsford, Mass.	Trade: Buf 11/4/21	Vegas	67	27	39	66	6
Byron Froese	32	6-1	202	Right	Winkler, Man.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Henderson (AHL)	60	10	24	34	42
Patrick Guay	21	5-9	181	Left	Fleurimont, Que.	145th overall (2022)	Savannah (ECHL)	49	16	36	52	18
Jordan Gustafson	19	5-10	178	Left	Ardrossan, Alta.	79th overall (2022)	Seattle (WHL)	40	16	20	36	14
Brett Howden	25	6-2	203	Left	Calgary, Alta.	Trade: NYR 7/17/21	Vegas	54	6	7	13	55
William Karlsson	30	6-0	190	Left	Marsta, Swe.	Expansion: Clb 6/21/17	Vegas	82	14	39	53	10
Ivan Morozov	23	6-1	178	Right	Khanty-Mansiysk, Rus.	61st overall (2018)	Henderson (AHL)	58	6	11	17	53
Mason Primeau	22	6-5	215	Left	Owen Sound, Ont.	141st overall (2019)	Henderson (AHL)	27	5	3	8	18
Gage Quinney	28	5-11	200	Left	Las Vegas, Nev.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Henderson (AHL)	66	25	39	64	22
Nicolas Roy	26	6-4	202	Right	Amos, Que.	Trade: Car 6/27/19	Vegas	65	14	16	30	24
Matyas Sapovaliv	19	6-3	178	Left	Prague, Cze.	48th overall (2022)	Saginaw (OHL)	61	27	29	56	24
Chandler Stephenson	29	6-0	209	Left	Saskatoon, Sask.	Trade: Wsh 12/3/19	Vegas	81	16	49	65	26
LEFT WINGERS	**AGE**	**HT.**	**WT.**	**SHOOTS**	**BORN**	**ACQUIRED**	**2022-23**	**GP**	**G**	**A**	**P**	**PIM**
William Carrier	28	6-2	218	Left	LaSalle, Que.	Expansion: Buf 6/21/17	Vegas	56	16	9	25	30
Pavel Dorofeyev	22	6-1	194	Left	Nizhny Tagil, Rus.	79th overall (2019)	Henderson (AHL)	32	9	8	17	30
Jackson Hallum	21	5-11	163	Left	Eagan, Minn.	91st overall (2020)	Michigan (Big Ten)	39	6	11	17	45
Marcus Kallionkieli	22	6-2	201	Left	Kankaanpaa, Fin.	139th overall (2019)	Savannah (ECHL)	5	1	0	1	2
Mason Morelli	27	6-1	198	Left	Minot, N.D.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Hershey (AHL)	72	12	29	41	72
RIGHT WINGERS	**AGE**	**HT.**	**WT.**	**SHOOTS**	**BORN**	**ACQUIRED**	**2022-23**	**GP**	**G**	**A**	**P**	**PIM**
Michael Amadio	27	6-1	204	Right	Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.	Waivers: Tor 10/30/21	Vegas	67	16	11	27	12
Martins Dzierkals	26	5-10	173	Left	Ogre, Lat.	Trade: Tor 2/24/20	Ceske Budejovice (Cze.)	52	7	14	21	16
Ben Hemmerling	19	5-10	159	Right	Edmonton, Alta.	177th overall (2022)	Everett (WHL)	55	21	41	62	46
Keegan Kolesar	26	6-2	217	Right	Brandon, Man.	Trade: Clb 6/24/17	Vegas	74	8	10	18	68
Jonathan Marchessault	32	5-9	183	Right	Cap-Rouge, Que.	Expansion: Fla 6/21/17	Vegas	76	28	29	57	21
Sheldon Rempal	28	5-10	165	Right	Calgary, Alta.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Henderson (AHL)	70	25	38	63	50
Jonas Rondbjerg	24	6-2	203	Left	Horsholm, Den.	65th overall (2017)	Henderson (AHL)	54	12	16	28	10
Mark Stone	31	6-3	217	Right	Winnipeg, Man.	Trade: Ott 2/25/19	Vegas	43	17	21	38	10
Tuomas Uronen	18	5-11	183	Right	Kerava, Fin.	192nd overall (2023)	HIFK Jr. (Fin.)	39	20	23	43	42

WASHINGTON CAPITALS

ALEX OVECHKIN

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BY **BEN RABY**

LAST SEASON, THE CAPITALS missed the playoffs for the first time since 2013-14. Injuries mounted, with headliners Nicklas Backstrom, Tom Wilson and John Carlson each missing more than half the season. The Caps' 441 man-games lost were their most since 1998-99. First-time NHL head coach Spencer Carbery replaces Peter Laviolette behind the bench and arrives with a track record of player development. Carbery wants the Capitals to play quicker both with and without the puck.

Management believes last year was an isolated blip and that with fewer trips to the infirmary, Washington can return to the post-season. With three years left on Alex Ovechkin's contract – and a certain goal-scoring record within reach – there remains incentive to ice a contender. Despite an appetite to also get younger, the Caps added Max Pacioretty, who turns 35 in November, and Joel Edmundson, 30, to an aging core that hasn't won a playoff series since the 2018 Stanley Cup final.

>OFFENSE

A top-10 offense for eight straight years, the Capitals fell to 20th in scoring last season. Ovechkin did his part – with a record 13th career 40-goal campaign – but secondary scoring was limited. Evgeny Kuznetsov battled inconsistency and requested a trade. In his return from hip-resurfacing surgery, Backstrom showed flashes with his hands and vision, but his mobility was compromised. Backstrom had one even-strength goal in 39 games and a minus-25 rating. Pacioretty should bolster the top six, though an Achilles injury will delay his debut. Dylan Strome was an offensive catalyst, recording career highs

2022-23 NUMBERS

RECORD
35-37-10 (.488)

OVERTIME
6-6

SHOOTOUT
2-4

OVERALL
25th

OFFENSE
3.09 GPG (20th)

DEFENSE
3.18 GAA (18th)

POWER PLAY
21.2% (16th)

PENALTY KILL
81.9% (11th)

CORSI FOR/60
57.78 (14th)

CORSI AGAINST/60
58.29 (21st)

ICE TIME LEAD (F)
A. Ovechkin (20:12)

ICE TIME LEAD (D)
J. Carlson (23:23)

FAST FACTS

COACH
Spencer Carbery

GM
Brian MacLellan

ARENA
Capital One Arena

CAPACITY
18,573

AHL AFFILIATE
Hershey Bears

ECHL AFFILIATE
South Carolina Stingrays

PLAYOFF RECORD
7-16 (since 2019)

OVECHKIN: DAN HAMILTON-USA TODAY SPORTS

WASHINGTON CAPITALS

NICKLAS BACKSTROM

BACKSTROM: AMBER SEARLS-USA TODAY SPORTS

with 23 goals and 65 points. Strome took ownership of the No. 1 center role and signed a five-year, $25-million extension.

>DEFENSE

On the same night Ovechkin passed Gordie Howe as the NHL's all-time No. 2 goal-scorer, Carlson fractured his skull. The gruesome injury was arguably the turning point of the season. Washington's 14-18-4 record during Carlson's three-month absence ranked 29th over that stretch. A healthy Carlson will again do the heavy lifting, likely partnering with Martin Fehervary. Nick Jensen quietly had a solid year and was leaned on for defensive-zone starts. Expectations are high for Rasmus Sandin, who impressed after a deadline deal from Toronto. Sandin's offensive instincts jumped out – with 15 points in 19 games – though there is room to improve in his own end. Edmundson brings size and snarl to a back end that needs it.

>GOALTENDING

The theme here is stability. Darcy Kuemper and Charlie Lindgren both return for their second season as a tandem. Kuemper, who tied a career high by playing 57 games last year, is the workhorse, and Lindgren the traditional backup. The Caps averaged just 2.75 goals for Kuemper, which ranked 21st among the 26 goalies who played 40-plus games. Kuemper was 19-3-3 when the Caps scored at least three goals and 3-23-4 when they didn't.

>SPECIAL TEAMS

Washington's once-vaunted power play has slowed over the past two seasons. Injuries played a role, but even when healthy, the unit struggled. Ovechkin can still unwind from his office, but getting him the puck and establishing control has been a challenge. The arrival of Carbery will help, as he improved an uber-talented PP as an assistant in Toronto. Despite injuries and roster turnover, the penalty kill was among Washington's strengths. Much of the unit returns, and Edmundson is available to join.

>INTANGIBLES

A healthy Wilson to start the year will be a welcome boost. Besides his physicality and ability to finish, his leadership was sorely missed early last season. Wilson and T.J. Oshie are often lauded internally for dragging their teammates into games. Ovechkin's chase of Wayne Gretzky's goal-scoring record is not a distraction but an organizational carrot. Teammates fed off Ovechkin's energy last season as milestones approached.

CUP ODDS

47/1

>ROOKIES

Years of trading draft assets for win-now upgrades leaves the Caps with few rookies ready to contribute. Defenseman Vincent Iorio and center Hendrix Lapierre could make NHL cameos, but both are likely at least a year away from regular duty.

>X-FACTOR

Amid all the injuries last season, Anthony Mantha couldn't seize the opportunity for a bigger role. By mid-season, he was a healthy scratch. A bounce-back year from the $5.7-million pending UFA would inject some much-needed secondary scoring. Kuznetsov must also rebound from a disappointing season as trade rumors swirl.

>THE BRASS

Carbery was in high demand before Washington signed him to a four-year contract. Currently the NHL's youngest coach, Carbery, 41, previously worked with Washington's AHL and ECHL affiliates. The Capitals will lean on his established relationships with some of their top prospects and his experience working with high-end players in Toronto.

DEPTH CHART | 2023-24

LEFT WING	CENTER	RIGHT WING
1. Alex Ovechkin	1. Dylan Strome	1. Tom Wilson
2. Max Pacioretty	2. Evgeny Kuznetsov	2. T.J. Oshie
3. Sonny Milano	3. Nicklas Backstrom	3. Anthony Mantha
4. Connor McMichael	4. Nic Dowd	4. Nicolas Aube-Kubel
5. Aliaksei Protas	5. Hendrix Lapierre	5. Matthew Phillips

DEFENSE		GOALIE
1. John Carlson	6. Joel Edmundson	1. Darcy Kuemper
2. Martin Fehervary	7. Alexander Alexeyev	2. Charlie Lindgren
3. Rasmus Sandin	8. Lucas Johansen	3. Hunter Shepard
4. Nick Jensen	9. Hardy Haman Aktell	
5. Trevor van Riemsdyk	10. Vincent Iorio	

INJURED

INDICATES NEW ARRIVAL

KEY DEPARTURES & UNSIGNED UFAs Conor Sheary, LW; Matt Irwin, D; Craig Smith, C; Connor Brown, RW; Gabriel Carlsson, D; Carl Hagelin, LW

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FUTURE WATCH

IT'S GETTING FUN IN Washington after years of smaller draft classes. Ryan Leonard, taken eighth overall in 2023, was the Capitals' highest pick since Karl Alzner in 2007. Leonard is a big-time competitor with loads of skill on the wing. Washington also got a steal when offensive wizard Andrew Cristall fell to the second round. If he can get stronger and quicker, he'll be a nightmare to defend. Top 2022 pick Ivan Miroshnichenko is slated to make his North American debut after battling cancer.

TOP 10 PROSPECTS

1. Ryan Leonard, RW
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** USA U18 (NTDP)
He's a generalist in the best possible way. There aren't many roles he can't or won't fill.
Acquired 8th overall, 2023 **NHL** '25-26

2. Connor McMichael, C
Age 22 **2022-23 Team** Hershey (AHL)
Made key contributions for AHL-champion Hershey. Smart with the puck and good defensively.
Acquired 25th overall, 2019 **NHL** '23-24

3. Ivan Miroshnichenko, LW
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Omsk (KHL)
Modest numbers as KHL rookie but massive success given he had chemotherapy in 2022.
Acquired 20th overall, 2022 **NHL** '25-26

4. Hendrix Lapierre, C
Age 21 **2022-23 Team** Hershey (AHL)
Flashes high-end skills at high-end speeds. Defensive play and strength are areas needing work.
Acquired 22nd overall, 2020 **NHL** '24-25

5. Andrew Cristall, LW
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Kelowna (WHL)
No one questions his skill. His skating is a different story, but he has huge offensive upside.
Acquired 40th overall, 2023 **NHL** '26-27

6. Vincent Iorio, D
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Hershey (AHL)
Three-game NHL audition will benefit him in long term. An extra AHL year won't harm two-way 'D.'
Acquired 55th overall, 2021 **NHL** '24-25

7. Ryan Chesley, D
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Minnesota (Big Ten)
Somehow combines top-pairing skating with rugged physicality of a bottom-pairing blueliner.
Acquired 37th overall, 2022 **NHL** '26-27

8. Alexander Suzdalev, LW
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Regina (WHL)
A wizard with the puck on his stick. He led WHL rookies in goals, assists and points.
Acquired 70th overall, 2022 **NHL** '26-27

9. Clay Stevenson, G
Age 24 **2022-23 Team** South Carolina (ECHL)
Caps easing big, limber keeper into the pro game through ECHL, where he thrived last season.
Acquired Free agent, March 28, 2022 **NHL** '26-27

10. Ludwig Persson, LW
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Karlskoga (Swe.2)
Uses speed and smarts effectively to back off defenders and create shooting and passing lanes.
Acquired 85th overall, 2022 **NHL** '27-28

SCHEDULE | 2023-24

Fri, Oct 13	vs Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Mon, Oct 16	vs Calgary	7:00 PM
Wed, Oct 18	@ Ottawa	7:00 PM
Sat, Oct 21	@ Montreal	7:00 PM
Tue, Oct 24	vs Toronto	6:00 PM
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Fri, Dec 29	@ NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Sat, Dec 30	vs Nashville	7:00 PM
Tue, Jan 2	@ Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Wed, Jan 3	vs New Jersey	7:30 PM
Fri, Jan 5	vs Carolina	7:00 PM
Sun, Jan 7	vs Los Angeles	3:00 PM
Thu, Jan 11	vs Seattle	7:00 PM
Sat, Jan 13	vs NY Rangers	1:00 PM
Sun, Jan 14	@ NY Rangers	1:00 PM
Tue, Jan 16	vs Anaheim	7:00 PM
Thu, Jan 18	vs St. Louis	7:00 PM
Sat, Jan 20	@ St. Louis	8:00 PM
Tue, Jan 23	@ Minnesota	8:00 PM
Wed, Jan 24	@ Colorado	9:30 PM
Sat, Jan 27	@ Dallas	2:00 PM
Tue, Feb 6	vs Montreal	7:00 PM
Thu, Feb 8	@ Florida	7:00 PM
Sat, Feb 10	@ Boston	3:30 PM
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Mon, Feb 26	vs Ottawa	7:00 PM
Tue, Feb 27	@ Detroit	7:00 PM
Fri, Mar 1	vs Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Sun, Mar 3	vs Arizona	1:00 PM
Thu, Mar 7	@ Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Sat, Mar 9	vs Chicago	7:00 PM
Mon, Mar 11	@ Winnipeg	7:30 PM
Wed, Mar 13	@ Edmonton	10:00 PM
Thu, Mar 14	@ Seattle	10:00 PM
Sat, Mar 16	@ Vancouver	10:00 PM
Mon, Mar 18	@ Calgary	8:30 PM
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Thu, Apr 4	vs Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Fri, Apr 5	@ Carolina	7:00 PM
Sun, Apr 7	vs Ottawa	6:00 PM
Tue, Apr 9	@ Detroit	7:00 PM
Thu, Apr 11	@ Buffalo	7:00 PM
Sat, Apr 13	vs Tampa Bay	5:30 PM
Mon, Apr 15	vs Boston	7:00 PM
Tue, Apr 16	@ Philadelphia	7:00 PM

CARLSON: CANDICE WARD-USA TODAY SPORTS; LEONARD: RENA LAVERTY / USA HOCKEY'S NTDP

ORGANIZATIONAL ROSTER

GOALIES	AGE	HT.	WT.	CATCHES	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	W-L-OT	GAA	SP
Garin Bjorklund	21	6-2	174	Left	Grande Prairie, Alta.	179th overall (2020)	South Carolina (ECHL)	1	1-0-0	3.58	.857
Chase Clark	21	6-6	202	Right	Williamsville, N.Y.	183rd overall (2021)	Quinnipiac (ECAC)	8	N/A	3.06	.840
Mitchell Gibson	24	6-1	188	Left	Phoenixville, Pa.	124th overall (2018)	Harvard (ECAC)	27	18-7-2	2.25	.919
Antoine Keller	18	6-2	176	Left	Dijon, Fra.	206th overall (2023)	Geneve-Servette Jr. (Sui.)	25	8-13-2	3.40	N/A
Darcy Kuemper	33	6-5	215	Left	Saskatoon, Sask.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Washington	57	22-26-7	2.87	.909
Charlie Lindgren	29	6-2	179	Right	Lakeville, Minn.	Free Agent: signed 7/13/22	Washington	31	13-11-3	3.05	.899
Hunter Shepard	27	6-0	215	Left	Cohasset, Minn.	Free Agent: signed 7/28/21	Hershey (AHL)	33	20-8-5	2.18	.916
Clay Stevenson	24	6-4	195	Left	Drayton Valley, Alta.	Free Agent: signed 3/28/22	South Carolina (ECHL)	36	19-12-3	2.54	.916

DEFENSEMEN	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Alexander Alexeyev	23	6-4	213	Left	St. Petersburg, Rus.	31st overall (2018)	Washington	32	0	5	5	4
Cameron Allen	18	6-0	194	Right	Toronto, Ont.	136th overall (2023)	Guelph (OHL)	62	5	20	25	72
John Carlson	33	6-3	215	Right	Natick, Mass.	27th overall (2008)	Washington	40	9	20	29	12
Ryan Chesley	19	6-0	195	Right	St. Paul, Minn.	37th overall (2022)	Minnesota (Big Ten)	36	2	8	10	13
Joel Edmundson	30	6-5	221	Left	Brandon, Man.	Trade: 7/1/23	Montreal	61	2	11	13	58
Martin Fehervary	23	6-2	199	Left	Bratislava, Svk.	46th overall (2018)	Washington	67	6	10	16	31
Tobias Geisser	24	6-5	217	Left	Stans, Sui.	120th overall (2017)	Zug (Sui.)	52	8	14	22	10
David Gucciardi	20	6-1	185	Left	Toronto, Ont.	213th overall (2022)	Michigan State (Big Ten)	36	4	6	10	43
Hardy Haman Aktell	25	6-3	198	Left	Kage, Swe.	Free Agent: signed 4/27/23	Vaxjo (Swe.)	51	9	27	36	22
Vincent Iorio	20	6-4	200	Right	Coquitlam, B.C.	55th overall (2021)	Hershey (AHL)	63	2	20	22	10
Nick Jensen	33	6-1	205	Right	Rogers, Minn.	Trade: Det 2/22/19	Washington	77	5	24	29	18
Lucas Johansen	25	6-2	176	Left	Vancouver, B.C.	28th overall (2016)	Hershey (AHL)	40	1	6	7	10
Brent Johnson	20	5-11	161	Right	St. Louis, Mo.	80th overall (2021)	North Dakota (NCHC)	13	1	5	6	6
Joaquim Lemay	21	6-1	178	Left	St-Pierre-les-Becquets, Que.	119th overall (2021)	Neb.-Omaha (NCHC)	32	2	10	12	23
Dylan McIlrath	31	6-5	232	Right	Winnipeg, Man.	Free Agent: signed 7/28/21	Hershey (AHL)	60	0	13	13	102
Chase Priskie	27	6-0	185	Right	Pembroke Pines, Fla.	Free Agent: signed 7/5/23	Rochester/SD (AHL)	58	11	11	22	20
Rasmus Sandin	23	5-11	182	Left	Uppsala, Swe.	Trade: Tor 2/28/23	Toronto/Washington	71	7	28	35	39
Trevor van Riemsdyk	32	6-3	191	Right	Middletown, N.J.	Free Agent: signed 10/10/20	Washington	75	7	16	23	15

CENTERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Nicklas Backstrom	35	6-1	202	Left	Gavle, Swe.	4th overall (2006)	Washington	39	7	14	21	14
Henrik Borgstrom	26	6-3	199	Left	Helsinki, Fin.	Free Agent: signed 7/14/22	Hershey (AHL)	55	8	13	21	10
Nic Dowd	33	6-1	193	Right	Huntsville, Ala.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/18	Washington	65	13	12	25	26
Ethen Frank	25	5-11	185	Right	Papillion, Neb.	Free Agent: signed 3/2/23	Hershey (AHL)	57	30	19	49	20
Haakon Hanelt	20	6-0	194	Left	Berlin, Ger.	151st overall (2021)	Gatineau (QMJHL)	34	3	15	18	18
Ryan Hofer	21	6-3	184	Left	Headingley, Man.	181st overall (2022)	Everett/Kamloops (WHL)	66	40	28	68	112
Brett Hyland	20	6-0	170	Left	Edmonton, Alta.	200th overall (2023)	Brandon (WHL)	42	26	21	47	54
Jake Karabela	19	5-10	165	Left	Guelph, Ont.	149th overall (2022)	Guelph (OHL)	68	18	21	39	26
Evgeny Kuznetsov	31	6-2	207	Left	Chelyabinsk, Rus.	26th overall (2010)	Washington	81	12	43	55	56
Hendrix Lapierre	21	6-0	180	Left	Gatineau, Que.	22nd overall (2020)	Hershey (AHL)	60	15	15	30	43
Alex Limoges	26	6-2	201	Left	Winchester, Va.	Free Agent: signed 7/3/23	Manitoba (AHL)	63	20	34	54	12
Connor McMichael	22	6-0	180	Left	Ajax, Ont.	25th overall (2019)	Hershey (AHL)	57	16	23	39	12
Matthew Phillips	25	5-7	140	Right	Calgary, Alta.	Free Agent: signed 7/2/23	Calgary (AHL)	66	36	40	76	12
Aliaksei Protas	22	6-6	225	Left	Vitebsk, Blr.	91st overall (2019)	Washington	58	4	11	15	12
Michael Sgarbossa	31	6-0	179	Left	Campbellville, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/18	Hershey (AHL)	60	21	37	58	38
Joe Snively	27	5-9	176	Left	Herndon, Va.	Free Agent: signed 3/18/19	Hershey (AHL)	32	9	18	27	6
Dylan Strome	26	6-3	200	Left	Mississauga, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/14/22	Washington	81	23	42	65	24
Patrick Thomas	19	6-0	172	Left	Oakville, Ont.	104th overall (2023)	Hamilton (OHL)	66	17	39	56	19

LEFT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Andrew Cristall	18	5-10	167	Left	Vancouver, B.C.	40th overall (2023)	Kelowna (WHL)	54	39	56	95	50
Oskar Magnusson	21	5-10	166	Left	Trelleborg, Swe.	211th overall (2020)	AIK (Swe.2)	52	6	10	16	16
Beck Malenstyn	25	6-3	200	Left	Delta, B.C.	145th overall (2016)	Hershey (AHL)	40	6	4	10	23
Sonny Milano	27	6-0	194	Left	Massapequa, N.Y.	Free Agent: signed 10/15/22	Washington	64	11	22	33	18
Ivan Miroshnichenko	19	6-1	185	Right	Ussuriysk, Rus.	20th overall (2022)	Omsk (KHL)	23	3	1	4	0
Alex Ovechkin	38	6-3	238	Right	Moscow, Rus.	1st overall (2004)	Washington	73	42	33	75	48
Max Pacioretty	34	6-2	217	Left	New Canaan, Conn.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Carolina	5	3	0	3	2
Ludwig Persson	19	6-0	185	Left	Gothenburg, Swe.	85th overall (2022)	Karlskoga (Swe.2)	45	4	11	15	0
Damien Riat	26	6-0	180	Right	Geneva, Sui.	117th overall (2016)	Lausanne (Sui.)	52	9	16	25	24
Alexander Suzdalev	19	6-2	172	Left	Khabarovsk, Rus.	70th overall (2022)	Regina (WHL)	66	38	48	86	28

RIGHT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Nicolas Aube-Kubel	27	6-0	207	Right	Slave Lake, Alta.	Waivers: Tor 11/5/22	Toronto/Washington	53	4	8	12	50
Pierrick Dube	22	5-9	172	Right	Lyon, Fra.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Laval (AHL)	44	16	16	32	30
Ryan Leonard	18	6-0	192	Right	Northhampton, Mass.	8th overall (2023)	USA U18 (NTDP)	57	51	43	94	46
Anthony Mantha	29	6-5	234	Left	Longueuil, Que.	Trade: Det 4/12/21	Washington	67	11	16	27	31
T.J. Oshie	36	6-0	187	Right	Everett, Wash.	Trade: StL 7/2/15	Washington	58	19	16	35	59
Henrik Rybinski	22	6-1	172	Right	Vancouver, B.C.	Free Agent: signed 3/1/22	Hershey (AHL)	51	5	13	18	18
Riley Sutter	23	6-4	204	Right	Calgary, Alta.	93rd overall (2018)	Hershey (AHL)	69	5	7	12	56
Bogdan Trineyev	21	6-3	198	Right	Voronezh, Rus.	117th overall (2020)	Dynamo Moscow (KHL)	39	2	11	13	12
Tom Wilson	29	6-4	220	Right	Toronto, Ont.	16th overall (2012)	Washington	33	13	9	22	78

WINNIPEG JETS

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BY **JARED CLINTON**

THAT THE JETS HAVE been bounced in four of the past six post-seasons by four Stanley Cup finalists – and two champions – might suggest they remain well-positioned to contend.

The fact is, though, Winnipeg is barely clinging to its steadily declining place in the Central Division hierarchy. The continued departures of centerpiece talents, most of whom have asked out, continued this off-season, and the Jets are beginning to feel like an organization primed to suffer a precipitous decline in the not-too-distant future. Winnipeg GM Kevin Cheveldayoff has consistently found ways to keep his club in the mix, though the Jets enter this season shrouded in uncertainty about the long-term future of key figures. That has been the norm in Winnipeg for several years now, and one can't help but wonder if there will come a time when the weight of the constant trade chatter will become too much to withstand.

>OFFENSE

The Jets' offense is like a business in the middle of a recession: it has to find ways to do more with less. That's the result of Pierre-Luc Dubois and Blake Wheeler, along with their combined 43-goal and 118-point output, departing over the summer. Granted, the Dubois swap with Los Angeles brought Alex Iafallo and Gabe Vilardi to Manitoba's capital, and that should cover a big chunk of the output lost in Dubois and Wheeler's exits. It helps, to be sure, that Kyle Connor has persisted as one of the NHL's purest snipers, and Mark Scheifele enters the season with plenty to prove. A healthy Nikolaj Ehlers would also go a long way to ensuring the attack doesn't nosedive.

2022-23 NUMBERS

RECORD
46-33-3 (.579)

OVERTIME
9-2

SHOOTOUT
1-1

OVERALL
14th

OFFENSE
3.00 GPG (21st)

DEFENSE
2.73 GAA (10th)

POWER PLAY
19.3 (23rd)

PENALTY KILL
82.4 (7th)

CORSI FOR/60
57.91 (13th)

CORSI AGAINST/60
54.39 (8th)

ICE TIME LEAD (F)
K. Connor (20:32)

ICE TIME LEAD (D)
J. Morrissey (24:14)

FAST FACTS

COACH
Rick Bowness

GM
Kevin Cheveldayoff

ARENA
Canada Life Centre

CAPACITY
15,321

AHL AFFILIATE
Manitoba Moose

ECHL AFFILIATE
None

PLAYOFF RECORD
8-15 (since 2019)

CONNOR: BOB FRID-USA TODAY SPORTS

>DEFENSE

Was Josh Morrissey's 76-point campaign, culminating with a fifth-place finish in Norris Trophy voting, a flash in the pan or repeatable feat? He is unquestionably the blueline's backbone, and the Jets are counting on him being the same minute-munching two-way threat once again. No major additions arrived on the back end, though Dylan Samberg steadily climbed the depth chart and should push for regular top-four minutes. The rangy blueliner's sandpaper and own-zone responsibility make him a good fit alongside Morrissey or Neal Pionk. Regardless of the pairings, Winnipeg's commitment to limiting shots and opportunities through full-scale buy-in bodes well for sustained defensive success. Only seven teams allowed fewer shot attempts last season, and that's a tremendous foundation on which to build.

>GOALTENDING

For now, Connor Hellebuyck is the No. 1 goaltender, but his pending free agency and persistent rumors about his interest in a new challenge make it uncertain he'll be a Jet from opening night to Game 82. Until the day comes that he's no longer in Winnipeg, however, the Jets will boast one of the best tandems in the NHL. The returning Laurent Brossoit has proven over the past several seasons to be as steady a second-stringer as there is in the league.

>SPECIAL TEAMS

How different would Jets' 2022-23 campaign have been if they were as proficient at capitalizing on the power play as they were at earning opportunities? Only seven teams drew more calls, but just nine converted at a lower rate. The firepower exists to reverse those fortunes, though it could come down to simply getting more pucks toward the net, as the Jets were below average in shot attempts and expected goals on the power play. An exceptional penalty kill helped balance the scales, as did disciplined play, but Winnipeg needs to make the most of its opportunities – which is made more difficult by the exits of Dubois and Wheeler, who placed third and fifth, respectively, in power-play scoring for the Jets last season.

CUP ODDS

36/1

>INTANGIBLES

It was a coin flip whether the Jets would score first in their games last season – 43 times with the first goal, 39 without – but Winnipeg won 15 games after allowing the first goal against. Only five teams won more games when trailing first. A never-say-die attitude goes a long way in the NHL.

>ROOKIES

A post-World Junior Championship move to the WHL did wonders for Brad Lambert, and the 2022 first-round pick – once considered a top-five player in his draft class – has the tools to push for a roster spot. Likely, he starts the season in the AHL, but he's going to be on the short list to get the call.

>X-FACTOR

Two seasons, two season-ending injuries for Cole Perfetti. He was better than a half-point-per-game player last season, however, and could vault into 20-goal, 50-point territory with consistent top-six minutes and a spot on the top power-play unit. He's a good distributor and a smart player. He just needs his health to cooperate.

>THE BRASS

Cheveldayoff is committed to keeping the Jets in contention, even if it's on the fringes, but he's in an unenviable position with Hellebuyck and Scheifele both pending unrestricted free agents. If the season begins to slip away, he'll be forced to consider pulling the chute.

DEPTH CHART | 2023-24

LEFT WING	CENTER	RIGHT WING
1. Kyle Connor	1. Mark Scheifele	1. Nikolaj Ehlers
2. Alex Iafallo	2. Gabe Vilardi	2. Nino Niederreiter
3. Cole Perfetti	3. Adam Lowry	3. Mason Appleton
4. Morgan Barron	4. David Gustafsson	4. Vladislav Namestnikov
5. Axel Jonsson-Fjallby	5. Rasmus Kupari	5. Jansen Harkins

DEFENSE		GOALIE
1. Josh Morrissey	6. Dylan Samberg	1. Connor Hellebuyck
2. Neal Pionk	7. Logan Stanley	2. Laurent Brossoit
3. Nate Schmidt	8. Ville Heinola	3. Collin Delia
4. Dylan DeMelo	9. Kyle Capobianco	INJURED
5. Brenden Dillon	10. Declan Chisholm	INDICATES NEW ARRIVAL

KEY DEPARTURES & UNSIGNED UFAs Pierre-Luc Dubois, C; Blake Wheeler, RW; David Rittich, G

MORRISSEY: JAMES CAREY LAUDER-USA TODAY SPORTS

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FUTURE WATCH

THE JETS HAVE GONE heavy on forwards with their high-end picks in recent years. Oddly, however, they haven't been able to find a place for defenseman Ville Heinola in their lineup. But the attackers do bring loads of promise, from Rutger McGroarty and Brad Lambert to 2023 first-rounder Colby Barlow, who was one of the OHL's most dangerous snipers. Fifth-round goalie Thomas Milic will be interesting to watch. He doesn't have ideal size, but he does have WJC gold to his name.

TOP 10 PROSPECTS

1. Colby Barlow, LW
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Owen Sound (OHL)
His two-way development added a new element to his goal-scoring toolkit. He wore the 'C' at 18.
Acquired 18th overall, 2023 **NHL** '25-26

2. Chaz Lucius, C
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Manitoba (AHL)
Dozen games in AHL before tearing up WHL before injury. Always in the right spot due to high IQ.
Acquired 18th overall, 2021 **NHL** '24-25

3. Rutger McGroarty, C
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Michigan (Big Ten)
Playmaking pivot has skill to play any role. Better skating would make him an A-list prospect.
Acquired 14th overall, 2022 **NHL** '25-26

4. Brad Lambert, C
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Seattle (WHL)
Transformed Seattle's offense when he arrived from AHL. Unstoppable once he's moving.
Acquired 30th overall, 2022 **NHL** '25-26

5. Ville Heinola, D
Age 22 **2022-23 Team** Manitoba (AHL)
Tidy puck-moving blueliner is entering sink-or-swim territory after years on NHL-AHL bubble.
Acquired 20th overall, 2019 **NHL** '23-24

6. Nikita Chibrikov, RW
Age 20 **2022-23 Team** Spartak Moscow Jr. (Rus.)
Logjam in KHL lineup has hindered pro growth for slippery winger. Getting stronger is key.
Acquired 50th overall, 2021 **NHL** '26-27

7. Elias Salomonsson, D
Age 19 **2022-23 Team** Skelleftea (Swe.)
Two steps and the rangy defender is flying. Now, the rest of his game just needs to catch up.
Acquired 55th overall, 2022 **NHL** '27-28

8. Zach Nehring, RW
Age 18 **2022-23 Team** Shattuck-St. Mary's (USHS)
Western Michigan commit uses 6-foot-3 frame to ward off opponents and get into good position.
Acquired 82nd overall, 2023 **NHL** '28-29

9. Dmitri Rashevsky, RW
Age 22 **2022-23 Team** Dynamo Moscow (KHL)
Slick winger doesn't shy away from 1-on-1s. Hasn't yet had a true breakout season in KHL.
Acquired 146th overall, 2021 **NHL** '24-25

10. Declan Chisholm, D
Age 23 **2022-23 Team** Manitoba (AHL)
No one has ever doubted his offensive ability. Own-zone responsibility is the path to NHL.
Acquired 150th overall, 2018 **NHL** '24-25

SCHEDULE | 2023-24

Wed, Oct 11	@ Calgary	10:00 PM
Sat, Oct 14	vs Florida	4:00 PM
Tue, Oct 17	vs Los Angeles	8:00 PM
Thu, Oct 19	vs Vegas	8:00 PM
Sat, Oct 21	@ Edmonton	10:00 PM
Tue, Oct 24	vs St. Louis	8:45 PM
Thu, Oct 26	@ Detroit	7:00 PM
Sat, Oct 28	@ Montreal	7:00 PM
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Tue, Jan 16	vs NY Islanders	8:00 PM
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Sat, Apr 13	@ Colorado	4:00 PM
Tue, Apr 16	vs Seattle	8:00 PM
Thu, Apr 18	vs Vancouver	8:00 PM

EHLERS: TERRENCE LEE-USA TODAY SPORTS; BARLOW: LUKE DURDA/OHL IMAGES

ORGANIZATIONAL ROSTER

GOALIES	AGE	HT.	WT.	CATCHES	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	W-L-OT	GAA	SP
Laurent Brossoit	30	6-3	215	Left	Port Alberni, B.C.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Henderson (AHL)	23	8-11-3	2.72	.909
Collin Delia	29	6-2	208	Left	Rancho Cucamonga, Calif.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	Vancouver	20	10-6-2	3.28	.882
Domenic DiVincentiis	19	6-2	191	Left	Toronto, Ont.	207th overall (2022)	North Bay (OHL)	48	36-9-2	2.33	.919
Connor Hellebuyck	30	6-4	216	Left	Commerce, Mich.	130th overall (2012)	Winnipeg	64	37-25-2	2.49	.920
Thomas Milic	20	6-0	175	Left	New Westminster, B.C.	151st overall (2023)	Seattle (WHL)	33	27-3-1	2.08	.928
Jared Moe	24	6-3	205	Right	New Prague, Minn.	184th overall (2018)	Wisconsin (Big Ten)	30	10-17-0	3.31	.898
Logan Neaton	24	6-3	190	Left	Brighton, Mich.	144th overall (2019)	Miami-Ohio (NCHC)	9	0-5-0	3.60	.900
Oskari Salminen	24	6-5	214	Left	Kotka, Fin.	Free Agent: signed 5/6/22	Manitoba (AHL)	39	18-13-6	3.06	.896

DEFENSEMEN	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Tyrel Bauer	21	6-3	207	Right	Calgary, Alta.	164th overall (2020)	Manitoba (AHL)	47	2	5	7	103
Garrett Brown	19	6-2	178	Right	Buffalo, N.Y.	99th overall (2022)	Sioux City/Waterloo (USHL)	54	3	15	18	34
Kyle Capobianco	26	6-2	201	Left	Mississauga, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 7/14/22	Winnipeg	14	2	0	2	6
Declan Chisholm	23	6-2	194	Left	Bowmanville, Ont.	150th overall (2018)	Manitoba (AHL)	59	5	38	43	21
Dylan DeMelo	30	6-0	195	Right	London, Ont.	Trade: Ott 2/18/20	Winnipeg	75	6	21	27	50
Brenden Dillon	32	6-4	224	Left	New Westminster, B.C.	Trade: Wsh 7/26/21	Winnipeg	82	2	21	23	76
Ville Heinola	22	6-1	185	Left	Honkajoki, Fin.	20th overall (2019)	Manitoba (AHL)	48	4	33	37	46
Anton Johannesson	21	5-9	144	Left	Gnosjo, Swe.	133rd overall (2020)	Dalen (Swe.3)	32	8	18	26	8
Artemi Kniazev	22	5-11	178	Left	Kazan, Rus.	Trade: SJ 7/2/23	San Jose (AHL)	61	5	23	28	32
Dmitry Kuzmin	20	5-10	188	Left	Kholstovo, Blr.	82nd overall (2021)	Flint (OHL)	65	14	45	59	96
Simon Lundmark	22	6-2	202	Right	Stockholm, Swe.	51st overall (2019)	Manitoba (AHL)	64	3	14	17	18
Josh Morrissey	28	6-0	185	Left	Calgary, Alta.	13th overall (2013)	Winnipeg	78	16	60	76	41
Neal Pionk	28	6-0	185	Right	Omaha, Neb.	Trade: NYR 6/17/19	Winnipeg	82	10	23	33	44
Elias Salomonsson	19	6-0	172	Right	Skelleftea, Swe.	55th overall (2022)	Skelleftea (Swe.)	25	3	2	5	10
Dylan Samberg	24	6-4	219	Left	Saginaw, Minn.	43rd overall (2017)	Winnipeg	63	2	6	8	25
Ashton Sautner	29	6-1	192	Left	Flin Flon, Man.	Free Agent: signed 7/15/22	Manitoba (AHL)	68	2	10	12	50
Nate Schmidt	32	6-0	195	Left	St. Cloud, Minn.	Trade: Van 7/27/21	Winnipeg	71	7	12	19	8
Logan Stanley	25	6-7	242	Left	Waterloo, Ont.	18th overall (2016)	Winnipeg	19	1	2	3	21

CENTERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Mason Appleton	27	6-3	197	Right	Green Bay, Wis.	Trade: Sea 3/20/22	Winnipeg	41	5	11	16	8
Morgan Barron	24	6-4	220	Left	Halifax, N.S.	Trade: NYR 3/21/22	Winnipeg	70	8	13	21	31
Harrison Blaisdell	22	5-11	181	Left	Sheffield, Gbr.	134th overall (2019)	New Hampshire (HE)	32	1	3	4	10
Wyatt Bongiovanni	24	6-0	194	Left	Birmingham, Mich.	Free Agent: signed 4/16/22	Manitoba (AHL)	56	13	5	18	32
Parker Ford	23	5-9	181	Right	Wakefield, R.I.	Free Agent: signed 3/25/23	Providence (HE)	37	12	14	26	22
David Gustafsson	23	6-2	212	Left	Tingsryd, Swe.	60th overall (2018)	Winnipeg	46	0	6	6	6
Jansen Harkins	26	6-2	197	Left	Cleveland, Ohio	47th overall (2015)	Manitoba (AHL)	44	25	25	50	36
Jacob Julien	19	6-4	181	Left	London, Ont.	146th overall (2023)	London (OHL)	40	9	7	16	14
Rasmus Kupari	23	6-2	200	Right	Kotka, Fin.	Trade: LA 6/27/23	Los Angeles	66	3	12	15	12
Brad Lambert	19	6-1	173	Right	Lahti, Fin.	30th overall (2022)	Seattle (WHL)	26	17	21	38	12
Adam Lowry	30	6-6	208	Left	St. Louis, Mo.	67th overall (2011)	Winnipeg	82	13	23	36	48
Chaz Lucius	20	6-2	177	Right	Lawrence, Kan.	18th overall (2021)	Manitoba (AHL)	12	2	3	5	6
Rutger McGroarty	19	6-0	200	Left	Lincoln, Neb.	14th overall (2022)	Michigan (Big Ten)	39	18	21	39	18
Vladislav Namestnikov	30	6-0	179	Left	Zhukovskiy, Rus.	Trade: SJ 3/3/23	Tampa Bay/Winnipeg	77	8	17	25	35
Henri Nikkanen	22	6-5	217	Left	Mikkeli, Fin.	113th overall (2019)	Manitoba (AHL)	66	5	11	16	24
Cole Perfetti	21	5-11	184	Left	Whitby, Ont.	10th overall (2020)	Winnipeg	51	8	22	30	16
Kristian Reichel	25	6-2	192	Right	Most, Cze.	Free Agent: signed 6/14/20	Manitoba (AHL)	61	9	15	24	28
Mark Scheifele	30	6-3	198	Right	Kitchener, Ont.	7th overall (2011)	Winnipeg	81	42	26	68	43
Dominic Toninato	29	6-2	201	Left	Duluth, Minn.	Free Agent: signed 10/10/20	Manitoba (AHL)	50	19	16	35	24
Gabriel Vilardi	24	6-3	215	Right	Kingston, Ont.	Trade: LA 6/27/23	Los Angeles	63	23	18	41	18
Fabian Wagner	19	5-10	170	Left	Nykoping, Swe.	175th overall (2022)	Linkoping Jr. (Swe.)	33	11	22	33	6
Austin Wong	23	5-11	189	Right	Calgary, Alta.	215th overall (2018)	Harvard (ECAC)	30	1	0	1	28
Danil Zhilkin	19	6-1	192	Left	Moscow, Rus.	77th overall (2022)	Guelph/Kitchener (OHL)	60	29	27	56	37

LEFT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Colby Barlow	18	6-0	190	Left	Orillia, Ont.	18th overall (2023)	Owen Sound (OHL)	59	46	33	79	29
Kyle Connor	26	6-2	179	Left	Shelby Township, Mich.	17th overall (2015)	Winnipeg	82	31	49	80	20
Nikolaj Ehlers	27	6-0	169	Left	Aalborg, Den.	9th overall (2014)	Winnipeg	45	12	26	38	11
Alex Iafallo	29	6-0	200	Left	Eden, N.Y.	Trade: LA 6/27/23	Los Angeles	59	14	22	36	20
Axel Jonsson-Fjallby	25	6-1	189	Left	Stockholm, Swe.	Waivers: Wsh 10/10/22	Winnipeg	50	6	8	14	8
Jeff Malott	27	6-5	208	Left	Burlington, Ont.	Free Agent: signed 5/31/21	Manitoba (AHL)	71	23	21	44	82
Daniel Torgersson	21	6-3	199	Left	Hono, Swe.	40th overall (2020)	Manitoba (AHL)	69	11	9	20	10
Kristian Vesalainen	24	6-3	207	Left	Helsinki, Fin.	24th overall (2017)	HIFK (Fin.)	40	16	21	37	8
Jeffrey Viel	26	6-2	205	Left	Rimouski, Que.	Free Agent: signed 7/1/23	San Jose (AHL)	60	15	16	31	150

RIGHT WINGERS	AGE	HT.	WT.	SHOOTS	BORN	ACQUIRED	2022-23	GP	G	A	P	PIM
Nikita Chibrikov	20	5-10	170	Left	Moscow, Rus.	50th overall (2021)	Spartak Moscow (KHL)	31	1	1	2	8
Connor Levis	18	6-1	187	Right	Vancouver, B.C.	210th overall (2023)	Kamloops (WHL)	68	27	40	67	34
Zach Nehring	18	6-3	179	Right	Minot, N.D.	82nd overall (2023)	Shattuck-St. Mary's (USHS)	54	39	46	85	80
Nino Niederreiter	31	6-2	218	Left	Chur, Sui.	Trade: Nsh 2/25/23	Nashville/Winnipeg	78	24	17	41	22
Dmitri Rashevsky	22	6-1	165	Left	St. Petersburg, Rus.	146th overall (2021)	Dynamo Moscow (KHL)	67	19	19	38	16

2022-23 FINAL STANDINGS

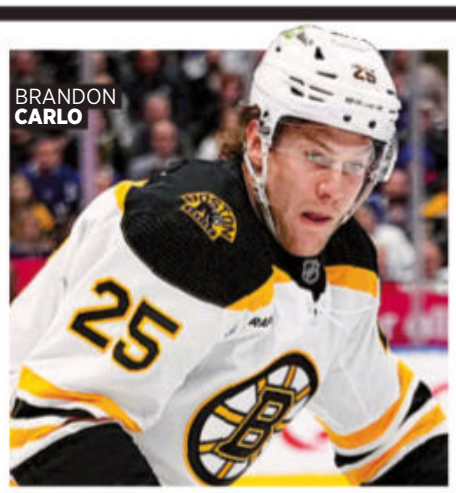
Total NHL Games: 1,312 Total NHL Goals: 8,343 NHL Avg. Goals/Game: 6.36

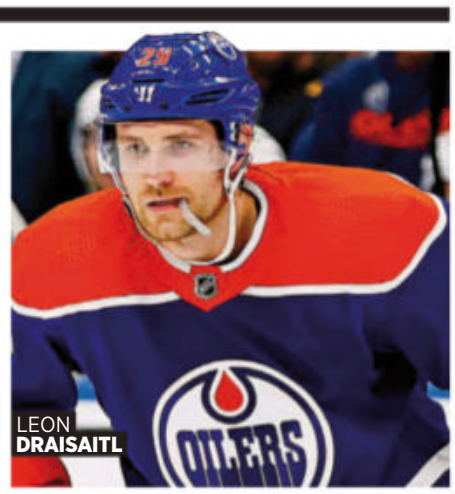
EASTERN CONFERENCE

	OVERALL										HOME								ROAD							
	GP	W	L	OL	SL	ROW	GF	GA	P	PCT.	GP	W	L	OL	SL	GF	GA	P	GP	W	L	OL	SL	GF	GA	P
1. Boston	82	65	12	2	3	61	305	177	135	.823	41	34	4	1	2	145	74	71	41	31	8	1	1	160	103	64
2. Carolina	82	52	21	6	3	48	266	213	113	.689	41	28	10	1	2	137	103	59	41	24	11	5	1	129	110	54
3. New Jersey	82	52	22	4	4	50	291	226	112	.683	41	24	13	2	2	137	107	52	41	28	9	2	2	154	119	60
4. Toronto	82	50	21	9	2	49	279	222	111	.677	41	27	8	4	2	147	105	60	41	23	13	5	0	132	117	51
5. NY Rangers	82	47	22	10	3	43	277	219	107	.652	41	23	13	3	2	141	116	51	41	24	9	7	1	136	103	56
6. Tampa Bay	82	46	30	4	2	43	283	254	98	.598	41	28	8	4	1	165	108	61	41	18	22	0	1	118	146	37
7. NY Islanders	82	42	31	4	5	41	243	222	93	.567	41	25	13	1	2	126	94	53	41	17	18	3	3	117	128	40
8. Florida	82	42	32	7	1	40	290	273	92	.561	41	23	13	4	1	153	125	51	41	19	19	3	0	137	148	41
9. Pittsburgh	82	40	31	10	1	39	262	264	91	.555	41	23	13	5	0	143	128	51	41	17	18	5	1	119	136	40
10. Buffalo	82	42	33	4	3	39	296	300	91	.555	41	17	20	3	1	145	164	38	41	25	13	1	2	151	136	53
11. Ottawa	82	39	35	7	1	37	261	271	86	.524	41	24	14	2	1	152	124	51	41	15	21	5	0	109	147	35
12. Detroit	82	35	37	6	4	32	240	279	80	.488	41	19	17	2	3	125	137	43	41	16	20	4	1	115	142	37
13. Washington	82	35	37	6	4	33	255	265	80	.488	41	18	16	5	2	129	127	43	41	17	21	1	2	126	138	37
14. Philadelphia	82	31	38	12	1	29	222	277	75	.457	41	18	18	5	0	123	136	41	41	13	20	7	1	99	141	34
15. Montreal	82	31	45	4	2	26	232	307	68	.415	41	17	21	1	2	123	152	37	41	14	24	3	0	109	155	31
16. Columbus	82	25	48	8	1	24	214	330	59	.360	41	16	23	1	1	114	160	34	41	9	25	7	0	100	170	25

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	OVERALL										HOME								ROAD							
	GP	W	L	OL	SL	ROW	GF	GA	P	PCT.	GP	W	L	OL	SL	GF	GA	P	GP	W	L	OL	SL	GF	GA	P
1 Vegas	82	51	22	5	4	46	272	229	111	.677	41	25	15	0	1	133	116	51	41	26	7	5	3	139	113	60
2. Edmonton	82	50	23	5	4	50	325	260	109	.665	41	23	12	3	3	159	126	52	41	27	11	2	1	166	134	57
3. Colorado	82	51	24	4	3	45	280	226	109	.665	41	22	13	3	3	137	112	50	41	29	11	1	0	143	114	59
4. Dallas	82	47	21	11	3	43	285	218	108	.659	41	22	10	7	2	142	115	53	41	25	11	4	1	143	103	55
5. Los Angeles	82	47	25	7	3	41	280	257	104	.634	41	26	11	2	2	148	121	56	41	21	14	5	1	132	136	48
6. Minnesota	82	46	25	5	6	39	246	225	103	.628	41	25	12	0	4	123	112	54	41	21	13	5	2	123	113	49
7. Seattle	82	46	28	4	4	46	289	256	100	.610	41	20	17	3	1	137	127	44	41	26	11	1	3	152	129	56
8. Winnipeg	82	46	33	2	1	45	247	225	95	.579	41	26	13	1	1	132	103	54	41	20	20	1	0	115	122	41
9. Calgary	82	38	27	12	5	36	260	252	93	.567	41	20	16	3	2	127	126	45	41	18	11	9	3	133	126	48
10. Nashville	82	42	32	6	2	36	229	238	92	.561	41	22	15	3	1	117	117	48	41	20	17	3	1	112	121	44
11. Vancouver	82	38	37	5	2	32	276	298	83	.506	41	19	20	1	1	133	143	40	41	19	17	4	1	143	155	43
12. St. Louis	82	37	38	4	3	34	263	301	81	.494	41	18	17	4	2	130	145	42	41	19	21	0	1	133	156	39
13. Arizona	82	28	40	10	4	25	228	299	70	.427	41	21	15	4	1	130	142	47	41	7	25	6	3	98	157	23
14. San Jose	82	22	44	10	6	21	234	321	60	.366	41	8	22	6	5	114	169	27	41	14	22	4	1	120	152	33
15. Chicago	82	26	49	5	2	24	204	301	59	.360	41	14	23	2	2	115	155	32	41	12	26	3	0	89	146	27
16. Anaheim	82	23	47	9	3	20	209	338	58	.354	41	12	25	4	0	105	167	28	41	11	22	5	3	104	171	30





TEAM PENALTIES

	PIM	BMI	AVG.
1. Vegas	599	3	7.3
2. Carolina	614	6	7.5
3. Buffalo	618	10	7.5
4. New Jersey	632	11	7.7
5. NY Rangers	635	10	7.7
6. Dallas	637	7	7.8
7. St. Louis	651	6	7.9
8. Columbus	654	5	8.0
9. NY Islanders	656	4	8.0
10. Detroit	662	7	8.1
11. San Jose	667	5	8.1
12. Colorado	675	8	8.2
13. Winnipeg	699	5	8.5
14. Toronto	701	8	8.5
15. Pittsburgh	705	9	8.6
16. Edmonton	706	9	8.6
17. Chicago	707	9	8.6
18. Seattle	708	13	8.6
19. Los Angeles	723	2	8.8
20. Washington	723	4	8.8
21. Vancouver	734	12	9.0
22. Calgary	757	10	9.2
23. Nashville	791	11	9.6
24. Philadelphia	855	7	10.4
25. Boston	861	7	10.5
26. Anaheim	929	15	11.3
27. Minnesota	935	12	11.4
28. Montreal	955	14	11.6
29. Arizona	972	17	11.9
30. Tampa Bay	995	12	12.1
31. Florida	998	12	12.2
32. Ottawa	1027	20	12.5

BMI: Bench minor penalties
NHL PIM: 24,181

PENALTY KILL

	SH	PPGA	PCT.
1. Boston	283	36	87.3
2. Carolina	256	40	84.4
3. Dallas	242	40	83.5
4. New Jersey	230	40	82.6
5. Calgary	270	47	82.6
6. Nashville	275	48	82.6
7. Winnipeg	239	42	82.4
8. San Jose	244	43	82.4
9. NY Islanders	219	39	82.2
10. Minnesota	256	46	82.0
11. Washington	226	41	81.9
12. Toronto	248	45	81.9
13. NY Rangers	223	42	81.2
14. Ottawa	296	59	80.1
15. Tampa Bay	261	53	79.7
16. Pittsburgh	263	55	79.1
17. Colorado	248	52	79.0
18. Detroit	249	54	78.3
19. Vegas	195	44	77.4
20. Edmonton	278	64	77.0
21. Seattle	236	55	76.7
22. Chicago	231	55	76.2
23. Florida	291	70	76.0
24. Los Angeles	269	65	75.8
25. Columbus	237	59	75.1
26. Philadelphia	233	59	74.7
27. Arizona	319	81	74.6
28. Buffalo	226	61	73.0
29. Montreal	275	75	72.7
30. St. Louis	217	60	72.4
31. Anaheim	280	78	72.1
32. Vancouver	243	69	71.6

SH: Shorthanded situations
PPGA: Power-play goals allowed
NHL Total SH: 8,058 **NHL PP Kills:** 6,341

POWER PLAY

	ADV	PPG	PCT.
1. Edmonton	275	89	32.4
2. Toronto	246	64	26.0
3. Tampa Bay	280	71	25.4
4. Los Angeles	269	68	25.3
5. Dallas	256	64	25.0
6. Colorado	261	64	24.5
7. NY Rangers	245	59	24.1
8. Ottawa	306	72	23.5
9. Buffalo	269	63	23.4
10. Florida	276	63	22.8
11. Vancouver	273	62	22.7
12. Boston	279	62	22.2
13. New Jersey	224	49	21.9
14. Pittsburgh	290	63	21.7
15. Minnesota	252	54	21.4
16. Washington	245	52	21.2
17. Detroit	270	57	21.1
18. Vegas	207	42	20.3
19. Calgary	252	50	19.8
20. Carolina	253	50	19.8
21. Seattle	243	48	19.8
22. St. Louis	238	46	19.3
23. Winnipeg	270	52	19.3
24. Arizona	238	45	18.9
25. San Jose	223	41	18.4
26. Columbus	224	41	18.3
27. Nashville	250	44	17.6
28. Chicago	232	38	16.4
29. Montreal	236	38	16.1
30. NY Islanders	222	35	15.8
31. Anaheim	229	36	15.7
32. Philadelphia	225	35	15.6

ADV: Advantages
PPG: Power-play goals
NHL PP: 8,058 **NHL PP goals:** 1,717

OVERALL STANDINGS

	GP	W	L	OL	SL	ROW	P
1. Boston	82	65	12	2	3	61	135
2. Carolina	82	52	21	6	3	48	113
3. New Jersey	82	52	22	4	4	50	112
4. Toronto	82	50	21	9	2	49	111
5. Vegas	82	51	22	5	4	46	111
6. Edmonton	82	50	23	5	4	50	109
7. Colorado	82	51	24	4	3	45	109
8. Dallas	82	47	21	11	3	43	108
9. NY Rangers	82	47	22	10	3	43	107
10. Los Angeles	82	47	25	7	3	41	104
11. Minnesota	82	46	25	5	6	39	103
12. Seattle	82	46	28	4	4	46	100
13. Tampa Bay	82	46	30	4	2	43	98
14. Winnipeg	82	46	33	2	1	45	95
15. NY Islanders	82	42	31	4	5	41	93
16. Calgary	82	38	27	12	5	36	93
17. Florida	82	42	32	7	1	40	92
18. Nashville	82	42	32	6	2	36	92
19. Pittsburgh	82	40	31	10	1	39	91
20. Buffalo	82	42	33	4	3	39	91
21. Ottawa	82	39	35	7	1	37	86
22. Vancouver	82	38	37	5	2	32	83
23. St. Louis	82	37	38	4	3	34	81
24. Detroit	82	35	37	6	4	32	80
25. Washington	82	35	37	6	4	33	80
26. Philadelphia	82	31	38	12	1	29	75
27. Arizona	82	28	40	10	4	25	70
28. Montreal	82	31	45	4	2	26	68
29. San Jose	82	22	44	10	6	21	60
30. Chicago	82	26	49	5	2	24	59
31. Columbus	82	25	48	8	1	24	59
32. Anaheim	82	23	47	9	3	20	58

DIVISION STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC	GP	W	L	OL	SL	ROW	P
1. Boston	82	65	12	2	3	61	135
2. Toronto	82	50	21	9	2	49	111
3. Tampa Bay	82	46	30	4	2	43	98
4. Florida	82	42	32	7	1	40	92
5. Buffalo	82	42	33	4	3	39	91
6. Ottawa	82	39	35	7	1	37	86
7. Detroit	82	35	37	6	4	32	80
8. Montreal	82	31	45	4	2	26	68

METROPOLITAN	GP	W	L	OL	SL	ROW	P
1. Carolina	82	52	21	6	3	48	113
2. New Jersey	82	52	22	4	4	50	112
3. NY Rangers	82	47	22	10	3	43	107
4. NY Islanders	82	42	31	4	5	41	93
5. Pittsburgh	82	40	31	10	1	39	91
6. Washington	82	35	37	6	4	33	80
7. Philadelphia	82	31	38	12	1	29	75
8. Columbus	82	25	48	8	1	24	59

WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL	GP	W	L	OL	SL	ROW	P
1. Colorado	82	51	24	4	3	45	109
2. Dallas	82	47	21	11	3	43	108
3. Minnesota	82	46	25	5	6	39	103
4. Winnipeg	82	46	33	2	1	45	95
5. Nashville	82	42	32	6	2	36	92
6. St. Louis	82	37	38	4	3	34	81
7. Arizona	82	28	40	10	4	25	70
8. Chicago	82	26	49	5	2	24	59

PACIFIC	GP	W	L	OL	SL	ROW	P
1. Vegas	82	51	22	5	4	46	111
2. Edmonton	82	50	23	5	4	50	109
3. Los Angeles	82	47	25	7	3	41	104
4. Seattle	82	46	28	4	4	46	100
5. Calgary	82	38	27	12	5	36	93
6. Vancouver	82	38	37	5	2	32	83
7. San Jose	82	22	44	10	6	21	60
8. Anaheim	82	23	47	9	3	20	58

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE

TEAM	2021-22	2022-23
1. Montreal	15,495	21,078
2. Carolina	17,210	19,526
3. Tampa Bay	19,092	19,092
4. Detroit	16,985	18,819
5. Toronto	15,586	18,753
6. Vancouver	17,286	18,702
7. Washington	18,573	18,573
8. Minnesota	18,542	18,454
9. Boston	17,850	18,372
10. Dallas	17,897	18,371
11. St. Louis	17,717	18,075
12. Vegas	18,101	18,024
13. Colorado	17,499	17,991
14. Calgary	14,284	17,956
15. NY Rangers	16,839	17,859
16. Edmonton	14,927	17,838
17. Pittsburgh	17,684	17,816
18. Philadelphia	16,541	17,635
19. Nashville	18,496	17,344
20. Chicago	18,489	17,167
21. Seattle	17,151	17,151
22. Los Angeles	14,829	17,067
23. NY Islanders	16,943	16,912
24. Columbus	16,237	16,860
25. Ottawa	9,155	16,757
26. Florida	14,811	16,682
27. Buffalo	9,998	15,567
28. New Jersey	12,744	15,207
29. Anaheim	13,083	14,953
30. Winnipeg	12,716	14,045
31. San Jose	12,574	13,988
32. Arizona	11,601	4,600

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JOSH MORRISSEY

MATTY BENIERS

LEADING SCORERS

	GP	G	A	P
1. Connor McDavid, Edm	82	64	89	153
2. Leon Draisaitl, Edm	80	52	76	128
3. David Pastrnak, Bos	82	61	52	113
4. Nikita Kucherov, TB	82	30	83	113
5. Nathan MacKinnon, Col	71	42	69	111
6. Jason Robertson, Dal	82	46	63	109
7. Matthew Tkachuk, Fla	79	40	69	109
8. Mikko Rantanen, Col	82	55	50	105
9. Ryan Nugent-Hopkins, Edm	82	37	67	104
10. Elias Pettersson, Van	80	39	63	102
11. Erik Karlsson, SJ	82	25	76	101
12. Jack Hughes, NJ	78	43	56	99
13. Mitch Marner, Tor	80	30	69	99
14. Brayden Point, TB	82	51	44	95
15. Tage Thompson, Buf	78	47	47	94
16. Sidney Crosby, Pit	82	33	60	93
17. Artemi Panarin, NYR	82	29	63	92
18. Mika Zibanejad, NYR	82	39	52	91
19. Tim Stutzle, Ott	78	39	51	90
20. William Nylander, Tor	82	40	47	87
21. Clayton Keller, Ari	82	37	49	86
22. Auston Matthews, Tor	74	40	45	85
23. Steven Stamkos, TB	81	34	50	84
24. Zach Hyman, Edm	79	36	47	83
25. Brady Tkachuk, Ott	82	35	48	83

DEFENSEMEN

	GP	G	A	P
1. Erik Karlsson, SJ	82	25	76	101
2. Josh Morrissey, Wpg	78	16	60	76
3. Quinn Hughes, Van	78	7	69	76
4. Dougie Hamilton, NJ	82	22	52	74
5. Brandon Montour, Fla	80	16	57	73
6. Rasmus Dahlin, Buf	78	15	58	73
7. Miro Heiskanen, Dal	79	11	62	73
8. Adam Fox, NYR	82	12	60	72
9. Cale Makar, Col	60	17	49	66
10. Vince Dunn, Sea	81	14	50	64
11. Mikhail Sergachev, TB	79	10	54	64
12. Brent Burns, Car	82	18	43	61
13. Roman Josi, Nsh	67	18	41	59
14. Tyson Barrie, Edm/Nsh	85	13	42	55
15. Alex Pietrangelo, Veg	73	11	43	54
16. Hampus Lindholm, Bos	80	10	43	53
17. Drew Doughty, LA	81	9	43	52
18. Charlie McAvoy, Bos	67	7	45	52
19. Justin Faulk, StL	82	11	39	50
20. Devon Toews, Col	80	7	43	50
21. Noah Dobson, NYI	78	13	36	49
22. Rasmus Andersson, Cgy	79	11	38	49
23. Victor Hedman, TB	76	9	40	49
24. Cam Fowler, Ana	82	10	38	48
25. Darnell Nurse, Edm	82	12	31	43

ROOKIES

	GP	G	A	P
1. Matty Beniers, Sea	80	24	33	57
2. Matias Maccelli, Ari	64	11	38	49
3. Mason McTavish, Ana	80	17	26	43
4. Wyatt Johnston, Dal	82	24	17	41
5. Kent Johnson, Clb	79	16	24	40
6. Noah Cates, Phi	82	13	25	38
7. Jack Quinn, Buf	75	14	23	37
8. Shane Pinto, Ott	82	20	15	35
9. Owen Power, Buf	79	4	31	35
10. JJ Peterka, Buf	77	12	20	32
11. Jake Sanderson, Ott	77	4	28	32
12. Cole Perfetti, Wpg	51	8	22	30
13. Calen Addison, Min	62	3	26	29
14. Jonatan Berggren, Det	67	15	13	28
15. Jack McBain, Ari	82	12	14	26
16. Kirill Marchenko, Clb	59	21	4	25
17. Juuso Parssinen, Nsh	45	6	19	25
18. Fabian Zetterlund, NJ/SJ	67	6	17	23
19. P.O. Joseph, Pit	75	5	16	21
20. Rafael Harvey-Pinard, Mtl	34	14	6	20
21. Nick Perbix, TB	69	5	15	20
22. Paul Cotter, Veg	55	13	5	18
23. Kaiden Guhle, Mtl	44	4	14	18
24. Mason Shaw, Min	59	7	10	17
25. Jordan Harris, Mtl	65	4	13	17

WINS

	GP	GAA	SP	WINS
1. Linus Ullmark, Bos	49	1.89	.938	40
2. Alexandar Georgiev, Col	62	2.53	.919	40
3. Igor Shesterkin, NYR	58	2.48	.916	37
4. Jake Oettinger, Dal	62	2.37	.919	37
5. Connor Hellebuyck, Wpg	64	2.49	.920	37
6. Andrei Vasilevskiy, TB	60	2.65	.915	34
7. Vitek Vanecek, NJ	52	2.45	.911	33
8. Juuse Saros, Nsh	64	2.69	.919	33
9. Ilya Sorokin, NYI	62	2.34	.924	31
10. Stuart Skinner, Edm	50	2.75	.914	29
11. Ilya Samsonov, Tor	42	2.33	.919	27
12. Martin Jones, Sea	48	2.99	.887	27
13. Jordan Binnington, StL	61	3.31	.894	27
14. Ville Husso, Det	56	3.11	.896	26
15. Jeremy Swayman, Bos	37	2.27	.920	24
16. Pheonix Copley, LA	37	2.64	.903	24
17. Marc-Andre Fleury, Min	46	2.85	.908	24
18. Tristan Jarry, Pit	47	2.90	.909	24
19. Sergei Bobrovsky, Fla	50	3.07	.901	24
20. Jacob Markstrom, Cgy	59	2.92	.892	23
21. Filip Gustavsson, Min	39	2.10	.931	22
22. Carter Hart, Phi	55	2.94	.907	22
23. Darcy Kuemper, Wsh	57	2.87	.909	22
24. Frederik Andersen, Car	34	2.48	.903	21
25. Jack Campbell, Edm	36	3.41	.888	21

AWARD WINNERS & ALL-STARS

NHL AWARDS

Hart Trophy (most valuable player)
Connor McDavid, Edmonton

Ted Lindsay Award (MVP voted by players)
Connor McDavid, Edmonton

Art Ross Trophy (top scorer)
Connor McDavid, Edmonton

Maurice Richard Trophy (top goal-scorer)
Connor McDavid, Edmonton

Calder Trophy (rookie of the year)
Matty Beniers, Seattle

Norris Trophy (outstanding defenseman)
Erik Karlsson, San Jose

Vezina Trophy (outstanding goaltender)
Linus Ullmark, Boston

Lady Byng Trophy (most sportsmanlike)
Anze Kopitar, Los Angeles

Selke Trophy (best defensive forward)
Patrice Bergeron, Boston

Jack Adams Award (coach of the year)
Jim Montgomery, Boston

Jennings Trophy (lowest GAA)
Linus Ullmark & Jeremy Swayman, Boston

Conn Smythe Trophy (playoff MVP)
Jonathan Marchessault, Vegas

Masterton Trophy (perseverance)
Kris Letang, Pittsburgh

King Clancy Trophy (humanitarian)
Mikael Backlund, Calgary

FIRST-TEAM ALL-STARS

C Connor McDavid, Edmonton
LW Jason Robertson, Dallas
RW David Pastrnak, Boston
D Erik Karlsson, San Jose
D Adam Fox, NY Rangers
G Linus Ullmark, Boston

SECOND-TEAM ALL-STARS

C Leon Draisaitl, Edmonton
LW Artemi Panarin, NY Rangers
RW Matthew Tkachuk, Florida
D Cale Makar, Colorado
D Hampus Lindholm, Boston
G Ilya Sorokin, NY Islanders

CONNOR MCDAVID

THE HOCKEY NEWS AWARDS

Most Valuable Player
Connor McDavid, Edmonton

Best Player
Connor McDavid, Edmonton

Best Defenseman
Erik Karlsson, San Jose

Best Goaltender
Linus Ullmark, Boston

Best Rookie
Matty Beniers, Seattle

Best Defensive Defenseman
Jaccob Slavin, Carolina

Comeback Player
Erik Karlsson, San Jose

Breakout Player
Jack Hughes, New Jersey

Toughest Player
Nicolas Deslauriers, Philadelphia

Top Penalty-Killer
Patrice Bergeron, Boston

Best Coach
Jim Montgomery, Boston

Best General Manager
Tom Fitzgerald, New Jersey

AWARD & ALL-STAR VOTING

NHL AWARDS VOTING

HART TROPHY 1. Connor McDavid, EDM 1951 (195-0-0-0-1) 2. David Pastrnak, BOS 1053 (1-109-42-19-13) 3. Matthew Tkachuk, FLA 741 (0-54-53-27-17) 4. Jason Robertson, DAL 356 (0-6-31-40-39) 5. Nathan MacKinnon, COL 275 (0-9-14-39-25) 6. Mikko Rantanen, COL 142 (0-2-18-10-8) 7. Leon Draisaitl, EDM 139 (0-4-12-10-21) 8. Jack Hughes, NJ 138 (0-2-7-22-23) 9. Ilya Sorokin, NYI 127 (0-4-10-11-16) 10. Linus Ullmark, BOS 61 (0-6-3-0-4)

NORRIS TROPHY 1. Erik Karlsson, SJ 1585 (123-33-16-12-8) 2. Adam Fox, NYR 1125 (41-72-28-20-11) 3. Cale Makar, COL 553 (12-26-29-26-28) 4. Hampus Lindholm, BOS 483 (12-14-31-30-20) 5. Josh Morrissey, WPG 337 (3-16-23-21-17) 6. Dougie Hamilton, NJ 270 (3-11-15-21-25) 7. Miro Heiskanen, DAL 269 (1-13-15-25-18) 8. Rasmus Dahlin, BUF 262 (0-6-23-25-30) 9. Quinn Hughes, VAN 101 (1-2-10-5-12) 10. Brent Burns, CAR 41 (0-2-2-3-8)

VEZINA TROPHY 1. Linus Ullmark, BOS 127 (22-5-2) 2. Ilya Sorokin, NYI 70 (3-17-4) 3. Connor Hellebuyck, WPG 32 (2-5-7) 4. Juuse Saros, NSH 24 (2-2-8) 5. Jake Oettinger, DAL 7 (0-0-7) 6. Andrei Vasilevskiy, TB 5 (1-0-0) 7. Alexandar Georgiev, COL 3 (0-1-0) 8. Igor Shesterkin, NYR 2 (0-0-2)

JACK ADAMS AWARD 1. Jim Montgomery, BOS 404 (79-3-0) 2. Lindy Ruff, NJ 127 (1-35-17) 3. Dave Hakstol, SEA 73 (1-13-29) 4. Bruce Cassidy, VEG 47 (0-12-11) 5. Jared Bednar, COL 26 (1-5-6) 6. Rod Brind'Amour, CAR 22 (0-5-7) 7. Jay Woodcroft, EDM 11 (0-3-2) T-8. Peter DeBoer, DAL 5 (0-1-2) T-8. Dean Evason, MIN 5 (0-1-2) 10. Todd McLellan, LA 4 (0-1-1)

FRANK SELKE TROPHY 1. Patrice Bergeron, BOS 1914 (187-4-2-2-0) 2. Nico Hischier, NJ 804 (3-68-38-28-24) 3. Mitch Marner, TOR 480 (3-21-39-27-27) 4. Jordan Staal, CAR 429 (1-36-15-23-23) 5. Anze Kopitar, LA 428 (2-24-28-29-13) 6. Mikael Backlund, CGY 322 (0-15-22-27-26) 7. Elias Pettersson, VAN 163 (0-6-15-12-10) 8. Aleksander Barkov, FLA 142 (0-10-7-9-10) 9. Joel Eriksson Ek, MIN 128 (0-4-10-8-26) 10. Elias Lindholm, CGY 36 (0-1-4-3-0)

LADY BYNG TROPHY 1. Anze Kopitar, LA 1175 (77-36-14-24-11) 2. Jack Hughes, NJ 934 (41-45-26-22-13) 3. Brayden Point, TB 682 (15-35-40-21-24) 4. Jaccob Slavin, CAR 552 (18-27-23-17-17) 5. Joe Pavelski, DAL 362 (16-9-11-20-24) 6. Matty Beniers, SEA 277 (9-9-13-14-17) 7. Aleksander Barkov, FLA 208 (1-2-21-18-25) 8. Elias Pettersson, VAN 180 (4-6-10-14-6) 9. Nico Hischier, NJ 103 (0-3-9-7-16) 10. Jason Robertson, DAL 63 (1-3-3-5-2)

NHL ALL-STAR VOTING

GOALTENDER 1. Linus Ullmark, BOS 822 (146-27-11) 2. Ilya Sorokin, NYI 499 (36-96-31) 3. Connor Hellebuyck, WPG 187 (4-33-68) 4. Juuse Saros, NSH 129 (6-19-42) 5. Jake Oettinger, DAL 56 (0-11-23) 6. Alexandar Georgiev, COL 22 (0-4-10) 7. Filip Gustavsson, MIN 8 (0-2-2) 8. Igor Shesterkin, NYR 3 (0-0-3) t-9. Jeremy Swayman, BOS 1 (0-0-1) t-9. Andrei Vasilevskiy, TB 1 (0-0-1)

DEFENSE 1. Erik Karlsson, SJ 873 (159-24-6) 2. Adam Fox, NYR 690 (102-53-21) 3. Cale Makar, COL 407 (44-47-46) 4. Hampus Lindholm, BOS 309 (23-56-26) 5. Josh Morrissey, WPG 260 (18-42-44) 6. Rasmus Dahlin, BUF 229 (7-47-53) 7. Dougie Hamilton, NJ 226 (13-38-47) 8. Miro Heiskanen, DAL 224 (12-39-47) 9. Quinn Hughes, VAN 116 (3-21-38) 10. Brent Burns, CAR 42 (2-6-14)

CENTER 1. Connor McDavid, EDM 958 (191-1-0) 2. Leon Draisaitl, EDM 352 (0-98-58) 3. Nathan MacKinnon, COL 336 (0-83-87) 4. Jack Hughes, NJ 45 (0-7-24) 5. Elias Pettersson, VAN 10 (0-0-10) 6. Mika Zibanejad, NYR 8 (1-1-0) 7. Auston Matthews, TOR 8 (0-1-5) 8. Brayden Point, TB 6 (0-1-3) T-9. Patrice Bergeron, BOS 2 (0-0-2) T-9. Tage Thompson, BUF 2 (0-0-2)

LEFT WING 1. Jason Robertson, DAL 921 (175-15-1) 2. Artemi Panarin, NYR 287 (1-72-66) 3. Ryan Nugent-Hopkins, EDM 233 (1-63-39) 4. Kirill Kaprizov, MIN 123 (3-25-33) 5. Matthew Tkachuk, FLA 78 (10-9-1) 6. Brady Tkachuk, OTT 34 (0-4-22) 7. Alex Ovechkin, WSH 9 (0-1-6) 8. Brad Marchand, BOS 6 (0-1-3) 9. Jeff Skinner, BUF 6 (0-0-6) T-10. Leon Draisaitl, EDM 5 (1-0-0) T-10. David Pastrnak, BOS 5 (1-0-0)

RIGHT WING 1. David Pastrnak, BOS 850 (144-42-4) 2. Matthew Tkachuk, FLA 491 (44-78-37) 3. Mikko Rantanen, COL 203 (2-38-79) 4. Nikita Kucherov, TB 122 (2-21-49) 5. Mitch Marner, TOR 51 (0-10-21) 6. Tage Thompson, BUF 6 (0-2-0) 7. Zach Hyman, EDM 4 (0-1-1) 8. William Nylander, TOR 1 (0-0-1)

MORRISSEY: JAMES CAREY LAUDER-USA TODAY SPORTS; BENIERS: PERRY NELSON-USA TODAY SPORTS; MCDAVID: CHRISTOPHER HANEWINCKEL-USA TODAY SPORTS

FIRST ROUND DRAFT PICKS

The 2023 NHL draft was held on June 28-29 at Bridgestone Arena in Nashville. Listed below are each team's picks, including round/overall, player name, position and 2022-23 team and league.

NO.	TEAM	PLAYER	POS.	HT./WT.	2022-23 TEAM	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM
1.	Chi	Connor Bedard	C	5-10/185	Regina (WHL)	57	71	72	143	62
2.	Ana	Leo Carlsson	C	6-2/194	Orebro (Swe.)	44	10	15	25	6
3.	Clb	Adam Fantilli	C	6-2/195	Michigan (Big10)	36	30	35	65	67
4.	SJ	William Smith	C	6-0/180	USA U-18 (NTDP)	60	51	76	127	28
5.	Mtl	David Reinbacher	D	6-2/194	Kloten (Sui.)	46	3	19	22	26
6.	Ari	Dmitriy Simashev	D	6-4/198	Yaroslavl Jr. (Rus.)	29	1	9	10	39
7.	Phi	Matvei Michkov	RW	5-10/172	St. Petersburg/Sochi (KHL)	30	9	11	20	16
8.	Wsh	Ryan Leonard	RW	6-0/190	USA U-18 (NTDP)	57	51	43	94	46
9.	Det	Nate Danielson	C	6-2/186	Brandon (WHL)	68	33	45	78	38
10.	StL	Dalibor Dvorsky	C	6-1/200	AIK (Swe.2)	38	6	8	14	16
11.	Van	Tom Willander	D	6-1/180	Rogle Jr. (Swe.)	39	4	21	25	22
12.	Ari	Daniil But	LW	6-5/203	Yaroslavl Jr. (Rus.)	26	15	11	26	22
13.	Buf	Zach Benson	LW	5-10/170	Winnipeg (WHL)	60	36	62	98	49
14.	Pit	Brayden Yager	C	5-11/170	Moose Jaw (WHL)	67	28	50	78	14
15.	Nsh	Matthew Wood	RW	6-4/197	UConn (HC)	35	11	23	34	4
16.	Cgy	Samuel Honzek	LW	6-3/195	Vancouver (WHL)	43	23	33	56	16
17.	Det	Axel Sandin Pellikka	D	5-11/180	Skelleftea Jr. (Swe.)	31	16	20	36	64
18.	Wpg	Colby Barlow	LW	6-0/195	Owen Sound (OHL)	59	46	33	79	29
19.	Chi	Oliver Moore	C	5-11/195	USA U-18 (NTDP)	61	31	44	75	26
20.	Sea	Eduard Sale	LW	6-2/175	Brno (Cze.)	43	7	7	14	2
21.	Min	Charlie Stramel	C	6-3/222	Wisconsin (Big10)	33	5	7	12	59
22.	Phi	Oliver Bonk	D	6-2/180	London (OHL)	67	10	30	40	38
23.	NYR	Gabriel Perreault	RW	5-11/163	USA U-18 (NTDP)	63	53	79	132	8
24.	Nsh	Tanner Molendyk	D	5-11/181	Saskatoon (WHL)	67	9	28	37	37
25.	StL	Otto Stenberg	C	5-11/185	Frolunda Jr. (Swe.)	29	11	15	26	53
26.	SJ	Quentin Musty	LW	6-2/200	Sudbury (OHL)	53	26	52	78	71
27.	Col	Calum Ritchie	C	6-2/184	Oshawa (OHL)	59	24	35	59	35
28.	Tor	Easton Cowan	RW	5-10/170	London (OHL)	68	20	33	53	47
29.	StL	Theo Lindstein	D	6-0/185	Brynas (Swe.)	32	1	1	2	0
30.	Car	Bradly Nadeau	LW	5-10/160	Penticton (BCHL)	54	45	68	113	20
31.	Col	Mikhail Gulyayev	D	5-10/172	Omsk Jr. (Rus.)	22	2	23	25	18
32.	Veg	David Edstrom	C	6-3/185	Frolunda Jr. (Swe.)	28	15	13	28	12

ANAHEIM DUCKS
1/2. Leo Carlsson, C, Orebro (Swe.)
2/33. Nico Myatovic, LW, Seattle (WHL)
2/59. Carey Terrance, C, Erie (OHL)
2/60. Damian Clara, G, Farjestad Jr. (Swe.)
3/65. Coulson Pitre, RW, Flint (OHL)
3/85. Yegor Sidorov, RW, Saskatoon (WHL)
4/97. Konnor Smith, D, Peterborough (OHL)
5/129. Rodwin Dionicio, D, Windsor (OHL)
6/161. Vojtech Port, D, Edmonton (WHL)

ARIZONA COYOTES
1/6. Dmitriy Simashev, D, Yaroslavl Jr. (Rus.)
1/12. Daniil But, LW, Yaroslavl Jr. (Rus.)
2/38. Michael Hrabal, G, Omaha (USHL)
3/70. Jonathan Castagna, C, St. Andrews (High-ON)
3/72. Noel Nordh, LW, Brynas Jr. (Swe.)
3/81. Tanner Ludtke, C, Lincoln (USHL)
3/88. Vadim Moroz, RW, Minsk (KHL)
4/102. Terrell Goldsmith, D, Prince Albert (WHL)
5/134. Melker Thelin, G, Bjorkloven U-18 (Swe.)
5/160. Justin Kipkie, D, Victoria (WHL)
6/162. Samu Bau, C, Ilves (Fin.)
6/166. Carsen Musser, G, USA U-18 (NTDP)

BOSTON BRUINS
3/92. Christopher Pelosi, C, Sioux Falls (USHL)
4/124. Beckett Hendrickson, C, USA U-18 (NTDP)
6/188. Ryan Walsh, C, Cedar Rapids (USHL)
7/214. Casper Nassen, RW, Vasteras Jr. (Swe.)
7/220. Kristian Kostadinski, D, Frolunda Jr. (Swe.)

BUFFALO SABRES
1/13. Zach Benson, LW, Winnipeg (WHL)
2/39. Anton Wahlberg, C, Malmo Jr. (Swe.)
2/45. Maxim Strbak, D, Sioux Falls (USHL)
3/86. Gavin Mccarthy, D, Muskegon (USHL)
4/109. Ethan Miedema, LW, Kingston (OHL)
5/141. Scott Ratzlaff, G, Seattle (WHL)
6/173. Sean Keohane, D, Dexter School (High-MA)
7/205. Norwin Panocha, D, Berlin Jr. (Ger)

CALGARY FLAMES
1/16. Samuel Honzek, LW, Vancouver (WHL)
2/48. Etienne Morin, D, Moncton (QMJHL)
3/80. Aydar Suniev, LW, Penticton (BCHL)
4/112. Jaden Lipinski, C, Vancouver (WHL)
6/176. Yegor Yegorov, G, Dynamo Moscow Jr. (Rus.)
7/208. Axel Hurtig, D, Rogle Jr. (Swe.)

CAROLINA HURRICANES
1/30. Bradly Nadeau, LW, Penticton (BCHL)
2/62. Felix Unger Sorum, RW, Leksand Jr. (Swe.)
3/94. Jayden Perron, RW, Chicago (USHL)
4/100. Alexander Rykov, RW, Chelmet (Rus.2)
4/126. Stanislav Yarovoi, RW, Vityaz (KHL)
5/139. Charles-Alexis Legault, D, Quinnipiac (ECAC)
5/158. Ruslan Khazheyev, G, Chelyabinsk Jr. (Rus.)
6/163. Timur Mukhanov, LW, Omsk Jr. (Rus.)
6/190. Michael Emerson, RW, Chicago (USHL)
7/222. Yegor Velmakin, G, Voronezh (Rus.2)

CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS
1/1. Connor Bedard, C, Regina (WHL)
1/19. Oliver Moore, C, USA U-18 (NTDP)
2/35. Adam Gajan, G, Chippewa (NAHL)
2/44. Roman Kantserov, RW, Magnitogorsk Jr. (Rus.)
2/55. Martin Misiak, RW, Youngstown (USHL)
3/67. Nick Lardis, LW, Hamilton (OHL)
3/93. Jiri Felcman, C, Langnau Jr. (Sui.)
4/99. Alex Pharand, C, Sudbury (OHL)
5/131. Marcel Marcel, LW, Gatineau (QMJHL)
6/167. Milton Oscarson, C, Orebro (Swe.)
7/195. Janne Peltonen, D, Karpat Jr. (Fin.)

COLORADO AVALANCHE
1/27. Calum Ritchie, C, Oshawa (OHL)
1/31. Mikhail Gulyayev, D, Omsk Jr. (Rus.)
5/155. Nikita Ishimnikov, D, Yekaterinburg Jr. (Rus.)
6/187. Jeremy Hanzel, D, Seattle (WHL)
7/219. Maros Jedlicka, C, Zvolen (Svk.)

COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS
1/3. Adam Fantilli, C, Michigan (Big10)
2/34. Gavin Brindley, C, Michigan (Big10)
3/66. William Whitelaw, RW, Youngstown (USHL)
4/98. Andrew Strathmann, D, Youngstown (USHL)
4/114. Luca Pinelli, C, Ottawa (OHL)
5/156. Melvin Strahl, G, Modo Jr. (Swe.)
7/194. Oiva Keskinen, C, Tappara Jr. (Fin.)
7/224. Tyler Peddle, LW, Drummondville (QMJHL)

DALLAS STARS
2/61. Tristan Bertucci, D, Flint (OHL)
3/79. Brad Gardiner, C, Ottawa (OHL)
4/125. Aram Minnetian, D, USA U-18 (NTDP)
5/157. Arno Tiefensee, G, Mannheim (Ger.)
6/189. Angus MacDonell, C, Mississauga (OHL)
7/221. Sebastian Bradshaw, LW, Elite Acad. U-18 (AYHL)

DETROIT RED WINGS
1/9. Nate Danielson, C, Brandon (WHL)
1/17. Axel Sandin Pellikka, D, Skelleftea Jr. (Swe.)
2/41. Trey Augustine, G, USA U-18 (NTDP)
2/42. Andrew Gibson, D, Sault Ste. Marie (OHL)
2/47. Brady Cleveland, D, USA U-18 (NTDP)
3/73. Noah Dower Nilsson, LW, Frolunda Jr. (Swe.)
4/117. Larry Keenan, D, Culver Academy (High-IN)
5/137. Jack Phelan, D, Sioux Falls (USHL)
5/147. Kevin Bicker, LW, Mannheim Jr. (Ger.)
6/169. Rudy Guimond, G, Taft School (High-CT)
7/201. Emmitt Finnie, C, Kamloops (WHL)

EDMONTON OILERS
2/56. Beau Akey, D, Barrie (OHL)
6/184. Nathaniel Day, G, Flint (OHL)
7/216. Matt Copponi, C, Merrimack (HE)

FLORIDA PANTHERS
2/63. Gracyn Sawchyn, C, Seattle (WHL)
4/127. Albert Wikman, D, Farjestad Jr. (Swe.)
5/159. Olof Glifford, G, HV71 U18 (Swe.)
6/191. Luke Coughlin, D, Rimouski (QMJHL)
7/198. Stepan Zvyagin, LW, Dinamo-Shinnik Jr. (Rus.)

LOS ANGELES KINGS
2/54. Jakub Dvorak, D, Liberec (Cze.)
3/78. Koehn Ziemmer, RW, Prince George (WHL)
4/118. Hampton Slukynsky, G, Warroad (High-MN)
5/150. Matthew Mania, D, Sudbury (OHL)
6/182. Ryan Conmy, RW, Sioux City (USHL)

MINNESOTA WILD
1/21. Charlie Stramel, C, Wisconsin (Big10)
2/53. Rasmus Kumpulainen, C, Pelicans Jr. (Fin.)
2/64. Riley Heidt, C, Prince George (WHL)
5/149. Aaron Pionk, D, Waterloo (USHL)
6/181. Kalem Parker, D, Victoria (WHL)
7/213. James Clark, LW, Green Bay (USHL)

MONTREAL CANADIENS
1/5. David Reinbacher, D, Kloten (Sui.)
3/69. Jacob Fowler, G, Youngstown (USHL)
4/101. Florian Xhekaj, LW, Hamilton (OHL)
4/110. Bogdan Konyushkov, D, Nizhny Novgorod (KHL)
4/128. Quentin Miller, G, Quebec (QMJHL)
5/133. Sam Harris, LW, Sioux Falls (USHL)
5/144. Yevgeni Volokhin, G, Khanty-Mansiysk Jr. (Rus.)
6/165. Filip Eriksson, C, Vaxjo Jr. (Swe.)
7/197. Luke Mittelstadt, D, Minnesota (Big10)

NASHVILLE PREDATORS
1/15. Matthew Wood, RW, UConn (HE)
1/24. Tanner Molendyk, D, Saskatoon (WHL)
2/43. Felix Nilsson, C, Rogle Jr. (Swe.)
2/46. Kalan Lind, LW, Red Deer (WHL)
3/68. Jesse Kiiskinen, RW, Pelicans Jr. (Fin.)
3/83. Dylan Mackinnon, D, Halifax (QMJHL)
4/111. Joey Willis, C, Saginaw (OHL)
4/121. Juha Jatkola, G, Kalpa (Fin.)
5/143. Sutter Muzzatti, C, RPI (ECAC)
6/175. Austin Roest, C, Everett (WHL)
7/218. Aiden Fink, RW, Brooks (AJHL)

NEW JERSEY DEVILS
2/58. Lenni Hameenaho, RW, Assat (Fin.)
4/122. Cam Squires, RW, Cape Breton (QMJHL)
5/154. Chase Cheslock, D, Rogers (High-MN)
6/164. Cole Brown, LW, Hamilton (OHL)
6/186. Daniil Karpovich, D, Yekaterinburg Jr. (Rus.)

NEW YORK ISLANDERS
2/49. Danny Nelson, C, USA U-18 (NTDP)
4/113. Jesse Nurmi, LW, Kookoo Jr. (Fin.)
5/145. Justin Gill, C, Sherbrooke (QMJHL)
6/177. Zachary Schulz, D, USA U-18 (NTDP)
7/209. Dennis Good Bogg, D, AIK JR. (Swe.)

NEW YORK RANGERS
1/23. Gabriel Perreault, RW, USA U-18 (NTDP)
3/90. Drew Fortescue, D, USA U-18 (NTDP)
5/152. Rasmus Larsson, D, Vasteras Jr. (Swe.)
6/178. Dylan Roobroeck, C, Oshawa (OHL)
6/183. Ty Henricks, LW, Muskegon (USHL)

OTTAWA SENATORS
4/108. Hoyt Stanley, D, Victoria (BCHL)
5/140. Matthew Andonovski, D, Kitchener (OHL)
7/204. Owen Beckner, C, Salmon Arm (BCHL)
7/207. Vladimir Nikitin, G, Barys Nur-Sultan Jr. (Kaz.)
7/215. Nicholas Vantassell, RW, Green Bay (USHL)

PHILADELPHIA FLYERS
1/7. Matvei Michkov, RW, SKA St. Petersburg (KHL)
1/22. Oliver Bonk, D, London (OHL)
2/51. Carson Bjarnason, G, Brandon (WHL)
3/87. Egor Zavragin, G, Khanty-Mansiysk Jr. (Rus.)
3/95. Denver Barkey, C, London (OHL)
4/103. Cole Knuble, C, Fargo (USHL)
4/120. Alex Ciernik, LW, Sodertalje (Swe.2)
5/135. Carter Sotheran, D, Portland (WHL)
6/172. Ryan Macpherson, C, Leamington (GOJHL)
7/199. Matteo Mann, D, Chicoutimi (QMJHL)

PITTSBURGH PENGUINS
1/14. Brayden Yager, C, Moose Jaw (WHL)
3/91. Emil Pieniniemi, D, Karpat Jr. (Fin.)
5/142. Mikhail Ilyin, RW, Cherepovets Jr. (Rus.)
6/174. Cooper Foster, C, Ottawa (OHL)
7/217. Emil Jarventie, LW, Ilves Jr. (Fin.)
7/223. Kalle Kangas, D, Jokerit Jr. (Fin.)

SAN JOSE SHARKS
1/4. Will Smith, C, USA U-18 (NTDP)
1/26. Quentin Musty, LW, Sudbury (OHL)
2/36. Kasper Halttunen, RW, HIFK (Fin.)
3/71. Brandon Svoboda, C, Youngstown (USHL)
4/123. Luca Cagnoni, D, Portland (WHL)
5/130. Axel Landen, D, HV71 Jr. (Swe.)
5/132. Eric Pohlkamp, D, Cedar Rapids (USHL)
7/196. David Klee, C, Waterloo (USHL)
7/203. Yegor Rimashevskiy, RW, Dyn. Moscow Jr. (Rus.)

SEATTLE KRAKEN
1/20. Eduard Sale, LW, Brno (Cze.)
2/50. Carson Rehkopf, LW, Kitchener (OHL)
2/52. Oscar Fisker Molgaard, C, HV71 (Swe.)
2/57. Lukas Dragicevic, D, Tri-City (WHL)
3/84. Caden Price, D, Kelowna (WHL)
4/116. Andrei Loshko, C, Chicoutimi (QMJHL)
5/148. Kaden Hammell, D, Everett (WHL)
6/168. Visa Vedenpaa, G, Karpat Jr. (Fin.)
6/180. Zeb Forsfjall, C, Skelleftea Jr. (Swe.)
7/212. Zaccharya Wisdom, RW, Cedar Rapids (USHL)

ST. LOUIS BLUES
1/10. Dalibor Dvorsky, C, AIK (Swe.2)
1/25. Otto Stenberg, C, Frolunda Jr. (Swe.)
1/29. Theo Lindstein, D, Brynas (Swe.)
3/74. Quinton Burns, D, Kingston (OHL)
3/76. Juraj Pekarcik, LW, Nitra (Svk.)
4/106. Jakub Stancl, C, Vaxjo Jr. (Swe.)
5/138. Paul Fischer, D, USA U-18 (NTDP)
6/170. Matthew Mayich, D, Ottawa (OHL)
7/202. Nikita Susuyev, RW, Spartak Moscow Jr. (Rus.)

TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING
2/37. Ethan Gauthier, RW, Sherbrooke (QMJHL)
4/115. Jayson Shaugabay, RW, Warroad (High-MN)
6/179. Warren Clark, D, Steinbach (MJHL)
7/193. Jack Harvey, C, Chicago (USHL)
7/211. Ethan Hay, C, Flint (OHL)

TORONTO MAPLE LEAFS
1/28. Easton Cowan, RW, London (OHL)
5/153. Hudson Malinoski, C, Brooks (AJHL)
6/185. Noah Chadwick, D, Lethbridge (WHL)

VANCOUVER CANUCKS
1/11. Tom Willander, D, Rogle Jr. (Swe.)
3/75. Hunter Brzustewicz, D, Kitchener (OHL)
3/89. Sawyer Mynio, D, Seattle (WHL)
4/105. Ty Mueller, C, Nebraska-Omaha (NCHC)
4/107. Vilmer Alriksson, LW, Djurgarden Jr. (Swe.)
4/119. Matthew Perkins, C, Youngstown (USHL)
6/171. Aiden Celebrini, D, Brooks (AJHL)

VEGAS GOLDEN KNIGHTS
1/32. David Edstrom, C, Frolunda Jr. (Swe.)
3/77. Mathieu Cataford, C, Halifax (QMJHL)
3/96. Arttu Karki, D, Tappara Jr. (Fin.)
6/192. Tuomas Uronen, RW, HIFK Jr. (Fin.)

WASHINGTON CAPITALS
1/8. Ryan Leonard, RW, USA U-18 (NTDP)
2/40. Andrew Cristall, LW, Kelowna (WHL)
4/104. Patrick Thomas, C, Hamilton (OHL)
5/136. Cameron Allen, D, Guelph (OHL)
7/200. Brett Hyland, C, Brandon (WHL)
7/206. Antoine Keller, G, Geneve Jr. (Sui.)

WINNIPEG JETS
1/18. Colby Barlow, LW, Owen Sound (OHL)
3/82. Zach Nehring, RW, Shattuck-St. Mary's (High-MN)
5/146. Jacob Julien, C, London (OHL)
5/151. Thomas Milic, G, Seattle (WHL)
7/210. Connor Levis, RW, Kamloops (WHL)

SCHEDULE | 2023-24

OCTOBER

VISITOR	HOME	TIME
Tuesday, Oct. 10		
Nashville	Tampa Bay	5:30 PM
Chicago	Pittsburgh	8:00 PM
Seattle	Vegas	10:30 PM
Wednesday, Oct. 11		
Ottawa	Carolina	7:00 PM
Montreal	Toronto	7:00 PM
Chicago	Boston	7:30 PM
Winnipeg	Calgary	10:00 PM
Colorado	Los Angeles	10:00 PM
Edmonton	Vancouver	10:00 PM
Thursday, Oct. 12		
NY Rangers	Buffalo	7:00 PM
Philadelphia	Columbus	7:00 PM
Detroit	New Jersey	7:00 PM
St. Louis	Dallas	8:00 PM
Florida	Minnesota	8:00 PM
Seattle	Nashville	8:00 PM
Vegas	San Jose	10:30 PM
Friday, Oct. 13		
Arizona	New Jersey	7:00 PM
Pittsburgh	Washington	7:00 PM
Saturday, Oct. 14		
Philadelphia	Ottawa	1:00 PM
Florida	Winnipeg	4:00 PM
Nashville	Boston	7:00 PM
NY Rangers	Columbus	7:00 PM
Tampa Bay	Detroit	7:00 PM
Chicago	Montreal	7:00 PM
Calgary	Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Minnesota	Toronto	7:00 PM
Buffalo	NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Seattle	St. Louis	8:00 PM
Vancouver	Edmonton	10:00 PM
Colorado	San Jose	10:00 PM
Anaheim	Vegas	10:00 PM
Carolina	Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Sunday, Oct. 15		
Tampa Bay	Ottawa	7:00 PM
Carolina	Anaheim	8:30 PM
Monday, Oct. 16		
Detroit	Columbus	7:00 PM
Florida	New Jersey	7:00 PM
Arizona	NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Chicago	Toronto	7:00 PM
Calgary	Washington	7:00 PM
Tuesday, Oct. 17		
Tampa Bay	Buffalo	7:00 PM
Minnesota	Montreal	7:00 PM
Vancouver	Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Arizona	NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Edmonton	Nashville	8:00 PM
Los Angeles	Winnipeg	8:00 PM
Colorado	Seattle	10:00 PM
Carolina	San Jose	10:30 PM
Dallas	Vegas	10:30 PM
Wednesday, Oct. 18		
Washington	Ottawa	7:00 PM
Pittsburgh	Detroit	7:30 PM
Thursday, Oct. 19		
Calgary	Buffalo	7:00 PM
Toronto	Florida	7:00 PM
Nashville	NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Edmonton	Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Vancouver	Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Los Angeles	Minnesota	8:00 PM
Arizona	St. Louis	8:00 PM
Vegas	Winnipeg	8:00 PM
Dallas	Anaheim	10:00 PM
Carolina	Seattle	10:00 PM
Chicago	Colorado	10:30 PM
Boston	San Jose	10:30 PM
Friday, Oct. 20		
Calgary	Columbus	7:00 PM
New Jersey	NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Saturday, Oct. 21		
Detroit	Ottawa	1:00 PM
Anaheim	Arizona	4:00 PM
NY Islanders	Buffalo	7:00 PM
Vancouver	Florida	7:00 PM
Washington	Montreal	7:00 PM
Toronto	Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Vegas	Chicago	8:00 PM
Philadelphia	Dallas	8:00 PM
Columbus	Minnesota	8:00 PM
San Jose	Nashville	8:00 PM
Pittsburgh	St. Louis	8:00 PM
Carolina	Colorado	9:00 PM
Winnipeg	Edmonton	10:00 PM
NY Rangers	Seattle	10:00 PM
Boston	Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Sunday, Oct. 22		
Calgary	Detroit	5:00 PM
Boston	Anaheim	8:30 PM
Monday, Oct. 23		
Montreal	Buffalo	7:00 PM
Tuesday, Oct. 24		
Toronto	Washington	6:00 PM
Anaheim	Columbus	6:30 PM
Buffalo	Ottawa	6:45 PM
Carolina	Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
New Jersey	Montreal	7:15 PM
Dallas	Pittsburgh	7:30 PM
San Jose	Florida	7:45 PM
Colorado	NY Islanders	8:00 PM
Seattle	Detroit	8:15 PM
Boston	Chicago	8:30 PM
St. Louis	Winnipeg	8:45 PM
Edmonton	Minnesota	9:00 PM
Vancouver	Nashville	9:15 PM
NY Rangers	Calgary	9:45 PM
Arizona	Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Philadelphia	Vegas	11:00 PM
Wednesday, Oct. 25		
Washington	New Jersey	7:30 PM
Thursday, Oct. 26		
Anaheim	Boston	7:00 PM
Seattle	Carolina	7:00 PM
Winnipeg	Detroit	7:00 PM
Columbus	Montreal	7:00 PM
Minnesota	Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Colorado	Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
San Jose	Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Ottawa	NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Toronto	Dallas	8:00 PM
St. Louis	Calgary	9:00 PM
NY Rangers	Edmonton	9:00 PM
Friday, Oct. 27		
Chicago	Vegas	6:00 PM
San Jose	Carolina	7:00 PM
Buffalo	New Jersey	7:00 PM
Minnesota	Washington	7:00 PM
Los Angeles	Arizona	10:00 PM
St. Louis	Vancouver	10:00 PM
Saturday, Oct. 28		
Anaheim	Philadelphia	1:00 PM
Seattle	Florida	6:00 PM
Detroit	Boston	7:00 PM
NY Islanders	Columbus	7:00 PM
Winnipeg	Montreal	7:00 PM
Toronto	Nashville	7:00 PM
Ottawa	Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
NY Rangers	Vancouver	10:00 PM
Vegas	Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Sunday, Oct. 29		
Colorado	Buffalo	1:00 PM
Minnesota	New Jersey	5:00 PM
San Jose	Washington	5:00 PM
Calgary	Edmonton	7:00 PM
Monday, Oct. 30		
Florida	Boston	7:00 PM
Carolina	Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Anaheim	Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Seattle	Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Detroit	NY Islanders	7:30 PM
NY Rangers	Winnipeg	7:30 PM
Columbus	Dallas	8:00 PM
Chicago	Arizona	10:00 PM
Montreal	Vegas	10:00 PM
Tuesday, Oct. 31		
Los Angeles	Toronto	8:00 PM
Nashville	Vancouver	10:00 PM

NOVEMBER

VISITOR	HOME	TIME
Wednesday, Nov. 1		
Buffalo	Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Dallas	Calgary	8:30 PM
St. Louis	Colorado	9:30 PM
Arizona	Anaheim	10:00 PM
Thursday, Nov. 2		
Toronto	Boston	7:00 PM
Tampa Bay	Columbus	7:00 PM
Florida	Detroit	7:00 PM
Carolina	NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Los Angeles	Ottawa	7:00 PM
NY Islanders	Washington	7:00 PM
New Jersey	Minnesota	8:00 PM
Dallas	Edmonton	9:00 PM
Montreal	Arizona	10:00 PM
Nashville	Seattle	10:00 PM
Winnipeg	Vegas	10:00 PM
Vancouver	San Jose	10:30 PM
Friday, Nov. 3		
Philadelphia	Buffalo	7:00 PM
New Jersey	St. Louis	8:00 PM
Saturday, Nov. 4		
Nashville	Edmonton	3:00 PM
Winnipeg	Arizona	4:00 PM
Boston	Detroit	7:00 PM
Tampa Bay	Ottawa	7:00 PM
Los Angeles	Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Montreal	St. Louis	7:00 PM
Buffalo	Toronto	7:00 PM
Columbus	Washington	7:00 PM
Carolina	NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Florida	Chicago	8:00 PM
NY Rangers	Minnesota	8:00 PM
Calgary	Seattle	10:00 PM
Pittsburgh	San Jose	10:00 PM
Dallas	Vancouver	10:00 PM
Colorado	Vegas	10:00 PM
Sunday, Nov. 5		
New Jersey	Chicago	7:00 PM
Vegas	Anaheim	8:00 PM
Monday, Nov. 6		
Columbus	Florida	7:00 PM
Tampa Bay	Toronto	7:00 PM
Boston	Dallas	8:00 PM
Edmonton	Vancouver	10:00 PM
Tuesday, Nov. 7		
Buffalo	Carolina	7:00 PM
Tampa Bay	Montreal	7:00 PM
Minnesota	NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Detroit	NY Rangers	7:30 PM
Winnipeg	St. Louis	8:00 PM
Seattle	Arizona	9:00 PM
Nashville	Calgary	9:00 PM
Pittsburgh	Anaheim	10:00 PM
New Jersey	Colorado	10:00 PM
Philadelphia	San Jose	10:30 PM
Wednesday, Nov. 8		
Ottawa	Toronto	7:00 PM
Florida	Washington	7:30 PM
Los Angeles	Vegas	10:00 PM
Thursday, Nov. 9		
NY Islanders	Boston	7:00 PM
Dallas	Columbus	7:00 PM
Montreal	Detroit	7:00 PM
Minnesota	NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Vancouver	Ottawa	7:00 PM
Chicago	Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Arizona	St. Louis	8:00 PM
Nashville	Winnipeg	8:00 PM
Seattle	Colorado	9:00 PM
Pittsburgh	Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Edmonton	San Jose	10:30 PM
Friday, Nov. 10		
Minnesota	Buffalo	7:00 PM
Carolina	Florida	7:00 PM
Washington	New Jersey	7:00 PM
Calgary	Toronto	7:00 PM
Philadelphia	Anaheim	10:00 PM
San Jose	Vegas	10:00 PM
Saturday, Nov. 11		
Columbus	Detroit	1:00 PM
Dallas	Winnipeg	4:00 PM
Boston	Montreal	7:00 PM
Calgary	Ottawa	7:00 PM
Carolina	Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Vancouver	Toronto	7:00 PM
Washington	NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Buffalo	Pittsburgh	7:30 PM
Arizona	Nashville	8:00 PM
St. Louis	Colorado	9:00 PM
Edmonton	Seattle	10:00 PM
Philadelphia	Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Sunday, Nov. 12		
Chicago	Florida	1:00 PM
Dallas	Minnesota	6:00 PM
Vancouver	Montreal	7:00 PM
Columbus	NY Rangers	7:00 PM
San Jose	Anaheim	8:00 PM
Monday, Nov. 13		
NY Islanders	Edmonton	8:30 PM
Colorado	Seattle	10:00 PM
Tuesday, Nov. 14		
Boston	Buffalo	7:00 PM
Pittsburgh	Columbus	7:00 PM
Calgary	Montreal	7:00 PM
Vegas	Washington	7:00 PM
Arizona	Dallas	8:00 PM
Anaheim	Nashville	8:00 PM
Tampa Bay	St. Louis	8:00 PM
New Jersey	Winnipeg	8:00 PM
Florida	San Jose	10:30 PM
Wednesday, Nov. 15		
Philadelphia	Carolina	7:30 PM
Seattle	Edmonton	8:30 PM
Anaheim	Colorado	9:00 PM
NY Islanders	Vancouver	10:30 PM
Thursday, Nov. 16		
Detroit	Ottawa	2:00 PM
Arizona	Columbus	7:00 PM
Vegas	Montreal	7:00 PM
New Jersey	Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Tampa Bay	Chicago	8:30 PM
Vancouver	Calgary	9:00 PM
NY Islanders	Seattle	10:00 PM
Florida	Los Angeles	10:30 PM
St. Louis	San Jose	10:30 PM
Friday, Nov. 17		
Toronto	Detroit	2:00 PM
Buffalo	Winnipeg	8:00 PM
Florida	Anaheim	10:00 PM
Saturday, Nov. 18		
Minnesota	Ottawa	11:00 AM
Vegas	Philadelphia	1:00 PM
Chicago	Nashville	2:00 PM
Edmonton	Tampa Bay	4:00 PM
Montreal	Boston	7:00 PM
Pittsburgh	Carolina	7:00 PM
NY Islanders	Calgary	7:00 PM
NY Rangers	New Jersey	7:00 PM
Arizona	Winnipeg	7:00 PM
Columbus	Washington	7:30 PM
Colorado	Dallas	9:00 PM
Seattle	Vancouver	10:00 PM
St. Louis	Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Sunday, Nov. 19		
Toronto	Minnesota	8:00 AM
Columbus	Philadelphia	5:30 PM
Vegas	Pittsburgh	6:00 PM
Buffalo	Chicago	7:00 PM
St. Louis	Anaheim	8:00 PM
Monday, Nov. 20		
Edmonton	Florida	7:00 PM
Boston	Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
NY Rangers	Dallas	8:00 PM
Colorado	Nashville	8:00 PM
Los Angeles	Arizona	9:00 PM
Calgary	Seattle	10:00 PM
San Jose	Vancouver	10:00 PM
Edmonton	Carolina	7:00 PM
Wednesday, Nov. 22		
Chicago	Columbus	7:00 PM
New Jersey	Detroit	7:00 PM
Boston	Florida	7:00 PM
NY Rangers	Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Winnipeg	Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Buffalo	Washington	7:00 PM
Philadelphia	NY Islanders	7:30 PM
St. Louis	Arizona	9:00 PM
Calgary	Nashville	9:00 PM
Vegas	Dallas	9:30 PM
Montreal	Anaheim	10:00 PM
Vancouver	Colorado	10:00 PM
San Jose	Seattle	10:00 PM
Friday, Nov. 24		
Detroit	Boston	1:00 PM
NY Rangers	Philadelphia	1:00 PM
Toronto	Chicago	2:00 PM
Columbus	New Jersey	3:00 PM
Nashville	St. Louis	3:00 PM
Edmonton	Washington	3:00 PM
Los Angeles	Anaheim	3:30 PM
Montreal	San Jose	3:30 PM
Pittsburgh	Buffalo	6:00 PM
NY Islanders	Ottawa	7:30 PM
Tampa Bay	Carolina	8:00 PM
Winnipeg	Florida	8:00 PM
Calgary	Dallas	8:30 PM
Colorado	Minnesota	8:30 PM
Vancouver	Seattle	10:00 PM
Saturday, Nov. 25		
Boston	NY Rangers	1:00 PM
Montreal	Los Angeles	4:00 PM
Buffalo	New Jersey	7:00 PM
Toronto	Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Philadelphia	NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Calgary	Colorado	10:00 PM
Vancouver	San Jose	10:00 PM
Arizona	Vegas	10:00 PM
Sunday, Nov. 26		
Minnesota	Detroit	1:00 PM
St. Louis	Chicago	2:00 PM
Columbus	Carolina	5:00 PM
Winnipeg	Nashville	8:00 PM
Anaheim	Edmonton	9:00 PM
Monday, Nov. 27		
Boston	Columbus	7:00 PM
Buffalo	NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Florida	Ottawa	7:00 PM
Tampa Bay	Colorado	9:00 PM
Vegas	Calgary	9:30 PM
Washington	San Jose	10:30 PM
Tuesday, Nov. 28		
NY Islanders	New Jersey	7:00 PM
Carolina	Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Florida	Toronto	7:00 PM
St. Louis	Minnesota	8:00 PM
Pittsburgh	Nashville	8:00 PM
Dallas	Winnipeg	8:00 PM
Seattle	Chicago	8:30 PM
Tampa Bay	Arizona	9:00 PM
Vegas	Edmonton	9:00 PM
Anaheim	Vancouver	10:00 PM
Wednesday, Nov. 29		
Montreal	Columbus	7:00 PM
Detroit	NY Rangers	7:30 PM
Washington	Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Thursday, Nov. 30		
San Jose	Boston	7:00 PM
NY Islanders	Carolina	7:00 PM
Chicago	Detroit	7:00 PM
Florida	Montreal	7:00 PM
New Jersey	Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Pittsburgh	Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Seattle	Toronto	7:00 PM
Minnesota	Nashville	8:00 PM
Buffalo	St. Louis	8:00 PM
Edmonton	Winnipeg	8:00 PM
Colorado	Arizona	9:00 PM
Dallas	Calgary	9:00 PM
Washington	Anaheim	10:00 PM
Vegas	Vancouver	10:00 PM

DECEMBER

VISITOR	HOME	TIME
Friday, Dec. 1		
Ottawa	Columbus	7:00 PM
San Jose	New Jersey	7:00 PM
Saturday, Dec. 2		
Tampa Bay	Dallas	2:00 PM
Chicago	Winnipeg	3:00 PM
NY Rangers	Nashville	4:30 PM
NY Islanders	Florida	6:00 PM
Buffalo	Carolina	7:00 PM
Detroit	Montreal	7:00 PM
Seattle	Ottawa	7:00 PM
Philadelphia	Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Boston	Toronto	7:00 PM

**All times Eastern (ET)*

SCHEDULE | 2023-24

VISITOR	HOME	TIME
St. Louis	Arizona	9:00 PM
Colorado	Anaheim	10:00 PM
Vancouver	Calgary	10:00 PM
Washington	Vegas	10:00 PM
Sunday, Dec. 3		
Chicago	Minnesota	2:00 PM
San Jose	NY Rangers	6:00 PM
Columbus	Boston	7:00 PM
Nashville	Buffalo	7:00 PM
Colorado	Los Angeles	8:00 PM
Monday, Dec. 4		
Pittsburgh	Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Dallas	Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Seattle	Montreal	7:30 PM
Carolina	Winnipeg	7:30 PM
Washington	Arizona	9:00 PM
St. Louis	Vegas	10:00 PM
Tuesday, Dec. 5		
Detroit	Buffalo	7:00 PM
Los Angeles	Columbus	7:00 PM
NY Rangers	Ottawa	7:00 PM
San Jose	NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Nashville	Chicago	8:30 PM
Minnesota	Calgary	9:00 PM
Anaheim	Colorado	9:00 PM
New Jersey	Vancouver	10:00 PM
Wednesday, Dec. 6		
Dallas	Florida	7:00 PM
Pittsburgh	Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Vegas	St. Louis	9:00 PM
Carolina	Edmonton	9:30 PM
Thursday, Dec. 7		
Buffalo	Boston	7:00 PM
San Jose	Detroit	7:00 PM
Los Angeles	Montreal	7:00 PM
Toronto	Ottawa	7:00 PM
Dallas	Washington	7:00 PM
Columbus	NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Tampa Bay	Nashville	8:00 PM
Anaheim	Chicago	8:30 PM
Philadelphia	Arizona	9:00 PM
Carolina	Calgary	9:00 PM
Winnipeg	Colorado	9:00 PM
New Jersey	Seattle	10:00 PM
Minnesota	Vancouver	10:00 PM
Friday, Dec. 8		
St. Louis	Columbus	7:00 PM
Pittsburgh	Florida	7:00 PM
Minnesota	Edmonton	9:00 PM
Saturday, Dec. 9		
Arizona	Boston	1:00 PM
New Jersey	Calgary	4:00 PM
Vegas	Dallas	4:00 PM
Montreal	Buffalo	7:00 PM
Ottawa	Detroit	7:00 PM
Nashville	Toronto	7:00 PM
NY Rangers	Washington	7:00 PM
Los Angeles	NY Islanders	7:30 PM
St. Louis	Chicago	8:00 PM
Philadelphia	Colorado	9:00 PM
Tampa Bay	Seattle	10:00 PM
Carolina	Vancouver	10:00 PM
Sunday, Dec. 10		
Florida	Columbus	1:00 PM
New Jersey	Edmonton	4:00 PM
Washington	Chicago	7:00 PM
Nashville	Montreal	7:00 PM
Los Angeles	NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Winnipeg	Anaheim	8:00 PM
Minnesota	Seattle	9:00 PM
San Jose	Vegas	10:00 PM
Monday, Dec. 11		
Arizona	Buffalo	7:00 PM
Toronto	NY Islanders	7:00 PM
Detroit	Dallas	8:00 PM
Calgary	Colorado	9:30 PM
Tuesday, Dec. 12		
Toronto	NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Carolina	Ottawa	7:00 PM
Arizona	Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Philadelphia	Nashville	8:00 PM
Detroit	St. Louis	8:00 PM
Chicago	Edmonton	10:00 PM
Florida	Seattle	10:00 PM
Tampa Bay	Vancouver	10:00 PM
Calgary	Vegas	10:00 PM
Winnipeg	San Jose	10:30 PM
Wednesday, Dec. 13		
Pittsburgh	Montreal	7:00 PM
Boston	New Jersey	7:30 PM
Anaheim	NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Buffalo	Colorado	10:00 PM
Winnipeg	Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Thursday, Dec. 14		
Carolina	Detroit	7:00 PM
Washington	Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Columbus	Toronto	7:00 PM
Calgary	Minnesota	8:00 PM
Ottawa	St. Louis	8:00 PM
Tampa Bay	Edmonton	9:00 PM
Chicago	Seattle	10:00 PM
Florida	Vancouver	10:00 PM
Friday, Dec. 15		
Nashville	Carolina	7:00 PM
Anaheim	NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Boston	NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Ottawa	Dallas	8:00 PM
San Jose	Arizona	9:00 PM
Buffalo	Vegas	10:00 PM
Saturday, Dec. 16		
Vancouver	Minnesota	2:00 PM
NY Rangers	Boston	7:00 PM
New Jersey	Columbus	7:00 PM
NY Islanders	Montreal	7:00 PM
Detroit	Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Pittsburgh	Toronto	7:00 PM
Colorado	Winnipeg	7:00 PM
Washington	Nashville	8:00 PM
Dallas	St. Louis	8:00 PM
Buffalo	Arizona	9:00 PM
Tampa Bay	Calgary	10:00 PM
Florida	Edmonton	10:00 PM
Los Angeles	Seattle	10:00 PM
Sunday, Dec. 17		
Vancouver	Chicago	3:00 PM
Washington	Carolina	6:00 PM
Anaheim	New Jersey	7:00 PM
San Jose	Colorado	8:00 PM
Ottawa	Vegas	8:00 PM
Monday, Dec. 18		
Anaheim	Detroit	7:00 PM
Minnesota	Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Montreal	Winnipeg	7:30 PM
Seattle	Dallas	8:00 PM
Florida	Calgary	9:30 PM
Tuesday, Dec. 19		
Minnesota	Boston	7:00 PM
Columbus	Buffalo	7:00 PM
Vegas	Carolina	7:00 PM
Philadelphia	New Jersey	7:00 PM
St. Louis	Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
NY Rangers	Toronto	7:00 PM
Edmonton	NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Vancouver	Nashville	8:00 PM
Colorado	Chicago	8:30 PM
Ottawa	Arizona	9:00 PM
Los Angeles	San Jose	10:30 PM
Wednesday, Dec. 20		
Detroit	Winnipeg	7:30 PM
NY Islanders	Washington	7:30 PM
Seattle	Los Angeles	10:00 PM
Thursday, Dec. 21		
Toronto	Buffalo	7:00 PM
Washington	Columbus	7:00 PM
St. Louis	Florida	7:00 PM
Edmonton	New Jersey	7:00 PM
Nashville	Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Carolina	Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Vegas	Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Vancouver	Dallas	8:00 PM
Montreal	Minnesota	8:00 PM
Ottawa	Colorado	9:00 PM
Calgary	Anaheim	10:00 PM
Arizona	San Jose	10:30 PM
Friday, Dec. 22		
Philadelphia	Detroit	7:00 PM
Edmonton	NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Boston	Winnipeg	8:00 PM
Montreal	Chicago	8:30 PM
Saturday, Dec. 23		
Vegas	Florida	3:00 PM
Dallas	Nashville	3:00 PM
NY Islanders	Carolina	7:00 PM
Toronto	Columbus	7:00 PM
Boston	Minnesota	7:00 PM
Detroit	New Jersey	7:00 PM
Pittsburgh	Ottawa	7:00 PM
Tampa Bay	Washington	7:00 PM
Buffalo	NY Rangers	7:30 PM
Seattle	Anaheim	8:00 PM
Chicago	St. Louis	8:00 PM
Arizona	Colorado	9:00 PM
Calgary	Los Angeles	10:00 PM
San Jose	Vancouver	10:00 PM
Wednesday, Dec. 27		
Columbus	New Jersey	7:00 PM
Washington	NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Florida	Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Ottawa	Toronto	7:00 PM
Boston	Buffalo	7:30 PM
Pittsburgh	NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Detroit	Minnesota	8:00 PM
Carolina	Nashville	8:00 PM
Dallas	St. Louis	8:00 PM
Colorado	Arizona	9:00 PM
Winnipeg	Chicago	9:00 PM
Seattle	Calgary	9:30 PM
Vegas	Anaheim	10:00 PM
San Jose	Los Angeles	10:00 PM
Thursday, Dec. 28		
Montreal	Carolina	7:00 PM
Philadelphia	Vancouver	10:00 PM
Los Angeles	Vegas	10:00 PM
Edmonton	San Jose	10:30 PM
Friday, Dec. 29		
Toronto	Columbus	7:00 PM
Nashville	Detroit	7:00 PM
NY Rangers	Florida	7:00 PM
New Jersey	Ottawa	7:00 PM
Washington	NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Chicago	Dallas	8:00 PM
Colorado	St. Louis	8:00 PM
Arizona	Anaheim	10:00 PM
Philadelphia	Seattle	10:00 PM
Saturday, Dec. 30		
Minnesota	Winnipeg	3:00 PM
Columbus	Buffalo	5:00 PM
New Jersey	Boston	7:00 PM
Montreal	Florida	7:00 PM
St. Louis	Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
NY Rangers	Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Carolina	Toronto	7:00 PM
Nashville	Washington	7:00 PM
Edmonton	Los Angeles	10:00 PM
Sunday, Dec. 31		
Winnipeg	Minnesota	2:00 PM
Boston	Detroit	5:00 PM
Buffalo	Ottawa	6:00 PM
NY Islanders	Pittsburgh	6:00 PM
Montreal	Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Edmonton	Anaheim	8:00 PM
Philadelphia	Calgary	8:00 PM
San Jose	Colorado	8:00 PM
Chicago	Dallas	8:00 PM

JANUARY

Monday, Jan. 1		
Vegas	Seattle	3:00 PM
Tuesday, Jan. 2		
Boston	Columbus	7:00 PM
Carolina	NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Washington	Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Montreal	Dallas	8:00 PM
Calgary	Minnesota	8:00 PM
Chicago	Nashville	8:00 PM
Tampa Bay	Winnipeg	8:00 PM
Florida	Arizona	9:00 PM
NY Islanders	Colorado	9:00 PM
Philadelphia	Edmonton	9:00 PM
Ottawa	Vancouver	10:00 PM
Toronto	Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Detroit	San Jose	10:30 PM
Wednesday, Jan. 3		
New Jersey	Washington	7:30 PM
Toronto	Anaheim	9:00 PM
Thursday, Jan. 4		
Pittsburgh	Boston	7:00 PM
Buffalo	Montreal	7:00 PM
Chicago	NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Columbus	Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Colorado	Dallas	8:00 PM
Tampa Bay	Minnesota	8:00 PM
Calgary	Nashville	8:00 PM
Vancouver	St. Louis	8:00 PM
NY Islanders	Arizona	9:00 PM
Ottawa	Seattle	10:00 PM
Florida	Vegas	10:00 PM
Detroit	Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Winnipeg	San Jose	10:30 PM
Friday, Jan. 5		
Chicago	New Jersey	7:00 PM
Carolina	Washington	7:00 PM
Winnipeg	Anaheim	10:00 PM
Saturday, Jan. 6		
Calgary	Philadelphia	1:00 PM
Florida	Colorado	4:00 PM
Tampa Bay	Boston	7:00 PM
St. Louis	Carolina	7:00 PM
Minnesota	Columbus	7:00 PM
NY Rangers	Montreal	7:00 PM
Vancouver	New Jersey	7:00 PM
Buffalo	Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Toronto	San Jose	7:00 PM
Nashville	Dallas	8:00 PM
Ottawa	Edmonton	10:00 PM
NY Islanders	Vegas	10:00 PM
Sunday, Jan. 7		
Calgary	Chicago	3:00 PM
Los Angeles	Washington	3:00 PM
Winnipeg	Arizona	7:00 PM
Detroit	Anaheim	8:00 PM
Monday, Jan. 8		
Vancouver	NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Pittsburgh	Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Dallas	Minnesota	8:00 PM
Boston	Colorado	9:00 PM
Tuesday, Jan. 9		
Seattle	Buffalo	7:00 PM
Los Angeles	Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
San Jose	Toronto	7:00 PM
Vancouver	NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Anaheim	Nashville	8:00 PM
Florida	St. Louis	8:00 PM
Columbus	Winnipeg	8:00 PM
Edmonton	Chicago	8:30 PM
Boston	Arizona	9:00 PM
Ottawa	Calgary	9:00 PM
Wednesday, Jan. 10		
Montreal	Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Minnesota	Dallas	7:30 PM
Vegas	Colorado	10:00 PM
Thursday, Jan. 11		
Ottawa	Buffalo	7:00 PM
Anaheim	Carolina	7:00 PM
Edmonton	Detroit	7:00 PM
Los Angeles	Florida	7:00 PM
San Jose	Montreal	7:00 PM
Vancouver	Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
New Jersey	Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Seattle	Washington	7:00 PM
Toronto	NY Islanders	7:30 PM
NY Rangers	St. Louis	8:00 PM
Chicago	Winnipeg	8:00 PM
Calgary	Arizona	9:00 PM
Boston	Vegas	10:00 PM
Friday, Jan. 12		
Nashville	Dallas	8:00 PM
Philadelphia	Minnesota	8:00 PM
Saturday, Jan. 13		
NY Rangers	Washington	1:00 PM
Vancouver	Buffalo	4:00 PM
San Jose	Ottawa	4:00 PM
New Jersey	Florida	6:00 PM
Pittsburgh	Carolina	7:00 PM
Seattle	Columbus	7:00 PM
Los Angeles	Detroit	7:00 PM
Edmonton	Montreal	7:00 PM
Anaheim	Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Colorado	Toronto	7:00 PM
Philadelphia	Winnipeg	7:00 PM
Dallas	Chicago	8:00 PM
Arizona	Minnesota	8:00 PM
NY Islanders	Nashville	8:00 PM
Boston	St. Louis	8:00 PM
Calgary	Vegas	10:00 PM
Sunday, Jan. 14		
Washington	NY Rangers	1:00 PM
Detroit	Toronto	7:00 PM
Monday, Jan. 15		
New Jersey	Boston	1:00 PM
San Jose	Buffalo	1:00 PM
Vancouver	Columbus	1:00 PM
Anaheim	Florida	1:00 PM
Los Angeles	Carolina	3:00 PM
NY Islanders	Minnesota	6:00 PM
Seattle	Pittsburgh	6:00 PM
Colorado	Montreal	7:00 PM
Philadelphia	St. Louis	8:00 PM
Nashville	Vegas	10:00 PM
Tuesday, Jan. 16		
Seattle	NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Colorado	Ottawa	7:00 PM
Anaheim	Washington	7:00 PM
Los Angeles	Dallas	8:00 PM
NY Islanders	Winnipeg	8:00 PM
San Jose	Chicago	8:30 PM
Arizona	Calgary	9:00 PM
Toronto	Edmonton	9:00 PM
Wednesday, Jan. 17		
Detroit	Florida	7:00 PM
Montreal	New Jersey	7:00 PM
Chicago	Buffalo	7:30 PM
Thursday, Jan. 18		
Colorado	Boston	7:00 PM
Montreal	Ottawa	7:00 PM
Dallas	Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Minnesota	Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
St. Louis	Washington	7:00 PM
Toronto	Calgary	9:00 PM
Seattle	Edmonton	9:00 PM
Nashville	Los Angeles	9:30 PM
Arizona	Vancouver	10:00 PM
NY Rangers	Vegas	10:00 PM
Friday, Jan. 19		
Detroit	Carolina	7:00 PM
New Jersey	Columbus	7:00 PM
Minnesota	Florida	7:00 PM
NY Islanders	Chicago	8:30 PM
Saturday, Jan. 20		
Tampa Bay	Buffalo	12:30 PM
Colorado	Philadelphia	1:00 PM
Nashville	Arizona	3:00 PM
Winnipeg	Ottawa	3:00 PM
Montreal	Boston	7:00 PM
Dallas	New Jersey	7:00 PM
Toronto	Vancouver	7:00 PM
Washington	St. Louis	8:00 PM
Edmonton	Calgary	10:00 PM
Anaheim	San Jose	10:00 PM
Pittsburgh	Vegas	10:00 PM
NY Rangers	Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Sunday, Jan. 21		
Ottawa	Philadelphia	1:00 PM
Minnesota	Carolina	5:00 PM
Tampa Bay	Detroit	5:00 PM
Dallas	NY Islanders	7:30 PM
NY Rangers	Anaheim	8:30 PM
Toronto	Seattle	9:00 PM
Monday, Jan. 22		
Winnipeg	Boston	7:00 PM
Vegas	New Jersey	7:00 PM
Florida	Nashville	8:00 PM
Pittsburgh	Arizona	9:00 PM
Chicago	Vancouver	10:00 PM
San Jose	Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Tuesday, Jan. 23		
Dallas	Detroit	7:00 PM
Ottawa	Montreal	7:00 PM
Tampa Bay	Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Vegas	NY Islanders	7:30 PM

**All times Eastern (ET)*

VISITOR	HOME	TIME
Washington	Minnesota	8:00 PM
St. Louis	Calgary	9:00 PM
Columbus	Edmonton	9:00 PM
Buffalo	Anaheim	10:00 PM
NY Rangers	San Jose	10:30 PM
Wednesday, Jan. 24		
Arizona	Florida	7:00 PM
Winnipeg	Toronto	7:00 PM
Carolina	Boston	7:30 PM
Washington	Colorado	9:30 PM
Chicago	Seattle	10:00 PM
St. Louis	Vancouver	10:00 PM
Buffalo	Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Thursday, Jan. 25		
New Jersey	Carolina	7:00 PM
Philadelphia	Detroit	7:00 PM
NY Islanders	Montreal	7:00 PM
Boston	Ottawa	7:00 PM
Arizona	Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Anaheim	Dallas	8:00 PM
Nashville	Minnesota	8:00 PM
Columbus	Calgary	9:00 PM
Chicago	Edmonton	9:00 PM
Friday, Jan. 26		
Vegas	NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Florida	Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Los Angeles	Colorado	9:00 PM
St. Louis	Seattle	10:00 PM
Saturday, Jan. 27		
Boston	Philadelphia	12:30 PM
Washington	Dallas	2:00 PM
Nashville	Edmonton	4:00 PM
Buffalo	San Jose	4:00 PM
Arizona	Carolina	7:00 PM
Vegas	Detroit	7:00 PM
NY Rangers	Ottawa	7:00 PM
Montreal	Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
New Jersey	Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Toronto	Winnipeg	7:00 PM
Florida	NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Anaheim	Minnesota	9:00 PM
Chicago	Calgary	10:00 PM
Columbus	Vancouver	10:00 PM
Sunday, Jan. 28		
Los Angeles	St. Louis	2:00 PM
Columbus	Seattle	9:00 PM
Monday, Jan. 29		
Nashville	Ottawa	7:00 PM
Tuesday, Jan. 30		
Columbus	St. Louis	8:00 PM
Seattle	San Jose	10:30 PM
Wednesday, Jan. 31		
Ottawa	Detroit	7:00 PM
Los Angeles	Nashville	7:30 PM
San Jose	Anaheim	10:00 PM

FEBRUARY

Saturday, Feb. 3		
NHL All-Star Game in Toronto		
Monday, Feb. 5		
Colorado	NY Rangers	7:00 PM
NY Islanders	Toronto	7:00 PM
Tuesday, Feb. 6		
Calgary	Boston	7:00 PM
Dallas	Buffalo	7:00 PM
Vancouver	Carolina	7:00 PM
Philadelphia	Florida	7:00 PM
Colorado	New Jersey	7:00 PM
Winnipeg	Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Montreal	Washington	7:00 PM
Edmonton	Vegas	10:00 PM
Wednesday, Feb. 7		
Tampa Bay	NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Dallas	Toronto	7:00 PM
Minnesota	Chicago	9:30 PM
Thursday, Feb. 8		
Vancouver	Boston	7:00 PM
Washington	Florida	7:00 PM
Calgary	New Jersey	7:00 PM
Winnipeg	Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Tampa Bay	NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Colorado	Carolina	8:00 PM
Vegas	Arizona	9:00 PM
Friday, Feb. 9		
Pittsburgh	Minnesota	8:00 PM
NY Rangers	Chicago	8:30 PM
Edmonton	Anaheim	10:00 PM
Saturday, Feb. 10		
St. Louis	Buffalo	1:00 PM
Vancouver	Detroit	1:00 PM
Dallas	Montreal	1:00 PM
Calgary	NY Islanders	1:00 PM
Washington	Boston	3:30 PM
Colorado	Florida	6:00 PM
New Jersey	Carolina	7:00 PM
Tampa Bay	Columbus	7:00 PM
Toronto	Ottawa	7:00 PM
Seattle	Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Pittsburgh	Winnipeg	7:00 PM
Arizona	Nashville	8:00 PM
Edmonton	Los Angeles	10:00 PM
Sunday, Feb. 11		
St. Louis	Montreal	1:00 PM
Vancouver	Washington	1:30 PM
Monday, Feb. 12		
Seattle	New Jersey	7:00 PM
Calgary	NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Arizona	Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Minnesota	Vegas	10:00 PM
Tuesday, Feb. 13		
Tampa Bay	Boston	7:00 PM
Los Angeles	Buffalo	7:00 PM
Anaheim	Montreal	7:00 PM
Columbus	Ottawa	7:00 PM
St. Louis	Toronto	7:00 PM
Colorado	Washington	7:00 PM
Seattle	NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Carolina	Dallas	8:00 PM
New Jersey	Nashville	8:00 PM
Vancouver	Chicago	8:30 PM
Detroit	Edmonton	9:00 PM
Wednesday, Feb. 14		
Florida	Pittsburgh	7:30 PM
San Jose	Winnipeg	7:30 PM
Minnesota	Arizona	9:30 PM
Thursday, Feb. 15		
Seattle	Boston	7:00 PM
Florida	Buffalo	7:00 PM
Los Angeles	New Jersey	7:00 PM
Montreal	NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Anaheim	Ottawa	7:00 PM
Colorado	Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Philadelphia	Toronto	7:00 PM
Edmonton	St. Louis	8:00 PM
Pittsburgh	Chicago	8:30 PM
San Jose	Calgary	9:00 PM
Dallas	Nashville	9:00 PM
Detroit	Vancouver	10:00 PM
Friday, Feb. 16		
Carolina	Arizona	9:00 PM
Saturday, Feb. 17		
Edmonton	Dallas	12:30 PM
Ottawa	Chicago	3:00 PM
Detroit	Calgary	4:00 PM
Los Angeles	Boston	5:00 PM
Buffalo	Minnesota	5:00 PM
Nashville	St. Louis	5:00 PM
Florida	Tampa Bay	5:00 PM
Washington	Montreal	7:00 PM
Anaheim	Toronto	7:00 PM
Philadelphia	New Jersey	8:00 PM
Winnipeg	Vancouver	10:00 PM
Columbus	San Jose	10:30 PM
Carolina	Vegas	10:30 PM
Sunday, Feb. 18		
NY Rangers	NY Islanders	3:00 PM
Arizona	Colorado	6:00 PM
Los Angeles	Pittsburgh	6:00 PM
Monday, Feb. 19		
Anaheim	Buffalo	12:30 PM
Dallas	Boston	1:00 PM
Toronto	St. Louis	1:00 PM
Vancouver	Minnesota	2:00 PM
Detroit	Seattle	3:30 PM
Edmonton	Arizona	4:00 PM
Winnipeg	Calgary	4:00 PM
Vegas	San Jose	4:00 PM
Chicago	Carolina	7:00 PM
Ottawa	Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Tuesday, Feb. 20		
Ottawa	Florida	7:00 PM
Dallas	NY Rangers	7:00 PM
NY Islanders	Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
New Jersey	Washington	7:00 PM
Minnesota	Winnipeg	8:00 PM
Vancouver	Colorado	9:00 PM
Nashville	Vegas	10:00 PM
Columbus	Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Wednesday, Feb. 21		
Buffalo	Montreal	7:00 PM
Philadelphia	Chicago	7:30 PM
Columbus	Anaheim	10:00 PM
Toronto	Arizona	10:00 PM
Boston	Edmonton	10:00 PM
Thursday, Feb. 22		
Florida	Carolina	7:00 PM
Colorado	Detroit	7:00 PM
NY Rangers	New Jersey	7:00 PM
Dallas	Ottawa	7:00 PM
Montreal	Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Washington	Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
NY Islanders	St. Louis	8:00 PM
Boston	Calgary	9:00 PM
Vancouver	Seattle	10:00 PM
Toronto	Vegas	10:00 PM
Nashville	Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Friday, Feb. 23		
Buffalo	Columbus	7:00 PM
Winnipeg	Chicago	8:30 PM
Minnesota	Edmonton	9:00 PM
Saturday, Feb. 24		
Montreal	New Jersey	12:30 PM
Tampa Bay	NY Islanders	12:30 PM
NY Rangers	Philadelphia	3:00 PM
Washington	Florida	6:00 PM
Dallas	Carolina	7:00 PM
Toronto	Colorado	7:00 PM
St. Louis	Detroit	7:00 PM
Vegas	Ottawa	7:00 PM
Boston	Vancouver	7:00 PM
Calgary	Edmonton	10:00 PM
Minnesota	Seattle	10:00 PM
Nashville	San Jose	10:00 PM
Anaheim	Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Sunday, Feb. 25		
Tampa Bay	New Jersey	1:00 PM
Philadelphia	Pittsburgh	3:30 PM
Carolina	Buffalo	6:00 PM
NY Rangers	Columbus	6:00 PM
Detroit	Chicago	6:00 PM
Arizona	Winnipeg	6:00 PM
Nashville	Anaheim	8:00 PM
Monday, Feb. 26		
Ottawa	Washington	7:00 PM
NY Islanders	Dallas	8:00 PM
Los Angeles	Edmonton	9:30 PM
Boston	Seattle	10:00 PM
Tuesday, Feb. 27		
Washington	Detroit	7:00 PM
Buffalo	Florida	7:00 PM
Arizona	Montreal	7:00 PM
Tampa Bay	Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Vegas	Toronto	7:00 PM
Carolina	Minnesota	8:00 PM
Ottawa	Nashville	8:00 PM
St. Louis	Winnipeg	8:00 PM
Los Angeles	Calgary	9:00 PM
Dallas	Colorado	9:00 PM
Pittsburgh	Vancouver	10:00 PM
New Jersey	San Jose	10:30 PM
Wednesday, Feb. 28		
Columbus	NY Rangers	7:00 PM
St. Louis	Edmonton	8:30 PM
Thursday, Feb. 29		
Vegas	Boston	7:00 PM
Carolina	Columbus	7:00 PM
NY Islanders	Detroit	7:00 PM
Montreal	Florida	7:00 PM
Buffalo	Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Arizona	Toronto	7:00 PM
Winnipeg	Dallas	8:00 PM
Minnesota	Nashville	8:00 PM
Colorado	Chicago	9:00 PM
Pittsburgh	Seattle	10:00 PM
Los Angeles	Vancouver	10:00 PM
Anaheim	San Jose	10:30 PM

MARCH

NHL trade deadline March 1		
Friday, March 1		
Arizona	Ottawa	7:00 PM
Philadelphia	Washington	7:00 PM
New Jersey	Anaheim	10:00 PM
Saturday, March 2		
Winnipeg	Carolina	12:30 PM
Boston	NY Islanders	3:00 PM
Edmonton	Seattle	4:00 PM
Colorado	Nashville	6:00 PM
Vegas	Buffalo	7:00 PM
Florida	Detroit	7:00 PM
Ottawa	Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Montreal	Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
NY Rangers	Toronto	7:00 PM
Columbus	Chicago	8:00 PM
San Jose	Dallas	8:00 PM
Minnesota	St. Louis	8:00 PM
Pittsburgh	Calgary	10:00 PM
Sunday, March 3		
Arizona	Washington	1:00 PM
New Jersey	Los Angeles	3:30 PM
Winnipeg	Buffalo	7:00 PM
San Jose	Minnesota	7:00 PM
Vancouver	Anaheim	8:00 PM
Pittsburgh	Edmonton	9:00 PM
Monday, March 4		
Vegas	Columbus	7:00 PM
Florida	NY Rangers	7:00 PM
St. Louis	Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Boston	Toronto	7:00 PM
Chicago	Colorado	9:00 PM
Seattle	Calgary	9:30 PM
Tuesday, March 5		
Edmonton	Boston	7:00 PM
Florida	New Jersey	7:00 PM
Columbus	Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
St. Louis	NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Montreal	Nashville	8:00 PM
Seattle	Winnipeg	8:00 PM
Chicago	Arizona	9:00 PM
Vancouver	Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Dallas	San Jose	10:30 PM
Wednesday, March 6		
Buffalo	Toronto	7:00 PM
Detroit	Colorado	9:30 PM
Ottawa	Anaheim	10:00 PM
Thursday, March 7		
Toronto	Boston	7:00 PM
Montreal	Carolina	7:00 PM
Edmonton	Columbus	7:00 PM
Philadelphia	Florida	7:00 PM
St. Louis	New Jersey	7:00 PM
Washington	Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Calgary	Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Buffalo	Nashville	8:00 PM
Minnesota	Arizona	9:00 PM
Vancouver	Vegas	10:00 PM
Ottawa	Los Angeles	10:30 PM
NY Islanders	San Jose	10:30 PM
Friday, March 8		
Detroit	Arizona	9:00 PM
Minnesota	Colorado	9:00 PM
Dallas	Anaheim	10:00 PM
Winnipeg	Seattle	10:00 PM
Saturday, March 9		
Edmonton	Buffalo	12:30 PM
Nashville	Columbus	12:30 PM
Carolina	New Jersey	12:30 PM
Pittsburgh	Boston	3:00 PM
Calgary	Florida	4:00 PM
Toronto	Montreal	7:00 PM
Ottawa	San Jose	7:00 PM
Philadelphia	Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Chicago	Washington	7:00 PM
St. Louis	NY Rangers	7:30 PM
Winnipeg	Vancouver	10:00 PM
Detroit	Vegas	10:00 PM
Dallas	Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Sunday, March 10		
Edmonton	Pittsburgh	1:00 PM
Nashville	Minnesota	3:30 PM
Calgary	Carolina	5:00 PM
Arizona	Chicago	6:00 PM
NY Islanders	Anaheim	8:00 PM
Monday, March 11		
St. Louis	Boston	7:00 PM
New Jersey	NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Washington	Winnipeg	7:30 PM
NY Islanders	Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Tuesday, March 12		
Detroit	Buffalo	7:00 PM
NY Rangers	Carolina	7:00 PM
Columbus	Montreal	7:00 PM
Pittsburgh	Ottawa	7:00 PM
San Jose	Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Florida	Dallas	8:00 PM
Arizona	Minnesota	8:00 PM
Anaheim	Chicago	8:30 PM
Colorado	Calgary	9:00 PM
Vegas	Seattle	10:00 PM
Wednesday, March 13		
Los Angeles	St. Louis	7:30 PM
Nashville	Winnipeg	7:30 PM
Washington	Edmonton	10:00 PM
Colorado	Vancouver	10:30 PM
Thursday, March 14		
NY Islanders	Buffalo	7:00 PM
Florida	Carolina	7:00 PM
Ottawa	Columbus	7:00 PM
Arizona	Detroit	7:00 PM
Boston	Montreal	7:00 PM
Toronto	Philadelphia	7:00 PM
San Jose	Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
NY Rangers	Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
New Jersey	Dallas	8:00 PM
Anaheim	Minnesota	8:00 PM
Vegas	Calgary	9:00 PM
Washington	Seattle	10:00 PM
Friday, March 15		
Anaheim	Winnipeg	8:00 PM
Los Angeles	Chicago	8:30 PM
Saturday, March 16		
Buffalo	Detroit	12:30 PM
Ottawa	NY Islanders	12:30 PM
NY Rangers	Pittsburgh	3:00 PM
New Jersey	Arizona	5:00 PM
Tampa Bay	Florida	6:00 PM
Philadelphia	Boston	7:00 PM
San Jose	Columbus	7:00 PM
Montreal	Calgary	7:00 PM
Carolina	Toronto	7:00 PM
Los Angeles	Dallas	8:00 PM
Minnesota	St. Louis	8:00 PM
Colorado	Edmonton	10:00 PM
Nashville	Seattle	10:00 PM
Washington	Vancouver	10:00 PM
Sunday, March 17		
NY Islanders	NY Rangers	1:00 PM
New Jersey	Vegas	3:30 PM
Winnipeg	Columbus	6:00 PM
San Jose	Chicago	6:00 PM
Carolina	Ottawa	6:00 PM
Detroit	Pittsburgh	6:00 PM
Anaheim	St. Louis	7:00 PM
Monday, March 18		
Washington	Calgary	8:30 PM
Buffalo	Seattle	10:00 PM
Tuesday, March 19		
Ottawa	Boston	7:00 PM
Columbus	Detroit	7:00 PM
Pittsburgh	New Jersey	7:00 PM
Winnipeg	NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Toronto	Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Carolina	NY Islanders	7:30 PM
San Jose	Nashville	8:00 PM
Colorado	St. Louis	8:00 PM
Montreal	Edmonton	9:00 PM
Minnesota	Anaheim	10:00 PM
Chicago	Los Angeles	10:00 PM
Buffalo	Vancouver	10:00 PM
Tampa Bay	Vegas	10:00 PM

**All times Eastern (ET)*

VISITOR	HOME	TIME
Wednesday, March 20		
Toronto	Washington	7:30 PM
Arizona	Dallas	8:00 PM
Minnesota	Los Angeles	10:00 PM
Thursday, March 21		
NY Rangers	Boston	7:00 PM
Philadelphia	Carolina	7:00 PM
NY Islanders	Detroit	7:00 PM
Nashville	Florida	7:00 PM
Winnipeg	New Jersey	7:00 PM
St. Louis	Ottawa	7:00 PM
Buffalo	Edmonton	9:00 PM
Chicago	Anaheim	10:00 PM
Montreal	Vancouver	10:00 PM
Seattle	Vegas	10:00 PM
Tampa Bay	San Jose	10:30 PM
Friday, March 22		
Carolina	Washington	7:00 PM
Pittsburgh	Dallas	8:00 PM
Columbus	Colorado	9:00 PM
Seattle	Arizona	10:00 PM
Saturday, March 23		
Winnipeg	NY Islanders	1:00 PM
Boston	Philadelphia	1:00 PM
St. Louis	Minnesota	3:00 PM
Detroit	Nashville	5:00 PM
Ottawa	New Jersey	7:00 PM
Edmonton	Toronto	7:00 PM
Florida	NY Rangers	8:00 PM
Calgary	Vancouver	10:00 PM
Tampa Bay	Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Chicago	San Jose	10:30 PM
Columbus	Vegas	10:30 PM
Sunday, March 24		
Winnipeg	Washington	12:30 PM
Pittsburgh	Colorado	2:00 PM
New Jersey	NY Islanders	5:00 PM
Toronto	Carolina	6:00 PM
Edmonton	Ottawa	6:00 PM
Florida	Philadelphia	6:00 PM
Dallas	Arizona	8:00 PM
Tampa Bay	Anaheim	8:30 PM
Buffalo	Calgary	9:00 PM
Montreal	Seattle	9:00 PM
Monday, March 25		
Vegas	St. Louis	8:00 PM
Los Angeles	Vancouver	9:00 PM
Tuesday, March 26		
Boston	Florida	7:00 PM
Philadelphia	NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Carolina	Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
New Jersey	Toronto	7:00 PM
Detroit	Washington	7:00 PM
Vegas	Nashville	8:00 PM
Edmonton	Winnipeg	8:00 PM
Calgary	Chicago	8:30 PM
Montreal	Colorado	9:00 PM
Columbus	Arizona	10:00 PM
Anaheim	Seattle	10:00 PM
Dallas	San Jose	10:30 PM
Wednesday, March 27		
Ottawa	Buffalo	7:00 PM
Boston	Tampa Bay	7:30 PM
Thursday, March 28		
Detroit	Carolina	7:00 PM
NY Islanders	Florida	7:00 PM
Philadelphia	Montreal	7:00 PM
Chicago	Ottawa	7:00 PM
Columbus	Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Washington	Toronto	7:00 PM
San Jose	Minnesota	8:00 PM
Calgary	St. Louis	8:00 PM
Vegas	Winnipeg	8:00 PM
NY Rangers	Colorado	9:00 PM
Los Angeles	Edmonton	9:00 PM
Nashville	Arizona	10:00 PM
Anaheim	Seattle	10:00 PM
Dallas	Vancouver	10:00 PM
Friday, March 29		
New Jersey	Buffalo	7:00 PM
Saturday, March 30		
Detroit	Florida	12:30 PM
Vegas	Minnesota	3:00 PM
Anaheim	Edmonton	4:00 PM
NY Rangers	Arizona	6:00 PM
Nashville	Colorado	6:00 PM
Toronto	Buffalo	7:00 PM
Pittsburgh	Columbus	7:00 PM
Carolina	Montreal	7:00 PM
Chicago	Philadelphia	7:00 PM
NY Islanders	Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Ottawa	Winnipeg	7:00 PM
Boston	Washington	7:00 PM
San Jose	St. Louis	8:00 PM
Los Angeles	Calgary	10:00 PM
Dallas	Seattle	10:00 PM
Sunday, March 31		
Anaheim	Vancouver	3:30 PM
APRIL		
Monday, April 1		
Colorado	Columbus	7:00 PM
Pittsburgh	NY Rangers	7:00 PM
NY Islanders	Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Detroit	Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Florida	Toronto	7:00 PM
Edmonton	St. Louis	9:00 PM
Los Angeles	Winnipeg	9:00 PM
Seattle	San Jose	10:30 PM
Tuesday, April 2		
Washington	Buffalo	7:00 PM
Florida	Montreal	7:00 PM
Pittsburgh	New Jersey	7:00 PM
Chicago	NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Ottawa	Minnesota	8:00 PM
Boston	Nashville	8:00 PM
Anaheim	Calgary	9:00 PM
Vancouver	Vegas	10:00 PM
Wednesday, April 3		
Tampa Bay	Toronto	7:00 PM
New Jersey	NY Rangers	7:30 PM
Edmonton	Dallas	9:00 PM
Vancouver	Arizona	10:00 PM
Seattle	Los Angeles	10:00 PM
Thursday, April 4		
Boston	Carolina	7:00 PM
NY Islanders	Columbus	7:00 PM
Tampa Bay	Montreal	7:00 PM
Florida	Ottawa	7:00 PM
Pittsburgh	Washington	7:00 PM
Colorado	Minnesota	8:00 PM
St. Louis	Nashville	8:00 PM
Calgary	Winnipeg	8:00 PM
Los Angeles	San Jose	10:30 PM
Friday, April 5		
Philadelphia	Buffalo	7:00 PM
Washington	Carolina	7:00 PM
NY Rangers	Detroit	7:00 PM
Colorado	Edmonton	9:00 PM
Seattle	Anaheim	10:00 PM
Vegas	Arizona	10:00 PM
Saturday, April 6		
Tampa Bay	Pittsburgh	1:00 PM
Florida	Boston	3:30 PM
Winnipeg	Minnesota	4:00 PM
Dallas	Chicago	4:30 PM
St. Louis	San Jose	6:00 PM
Philadelphia	Columbus	7:00 PM
Toronto	Montreal	7:00 PM
New Jersey	Ottawa	7:00 PM
Nashville	NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Edmonton	Calgary	10:00 PM
Vancouver	Los Angeles	10:00 PM
Sunday, April 7		
Buffalo	Detroit	1:00 PM
Minnesota	Chicago	3:30 PM
Columbus	Carolina	5:00 PM
Arizona	San Jose	6:00 PM
Ottawa	Washington	6:00 PM
Nashville	New Jersey	7:00 PM
Montreal	NY Rangers	7:00 PM
St. Louis	Anaheim	8:00 PM
Dallas	Colorado	10:00 PM
Monday, April 8		
Pittsburgh	Toronto	7:00 PM
Vegas	Vancouver	10:00 PM
Tuesday, April 9		
Carolina	Boston	7:00 PM
Washington	Detroit	7:00 PM
Ottawa	Florida	7:00 PM
Philadelphia	Montreal	7:00 PM
Toronto	New Jersey	7:00 PM
NY Rangers	NY Islanders	7:00 PM
Columbus	Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Buffalo	Dallas	8:00 PM
Winnipeg	Nashville	8:00 PM
Minnesota	Colorado	9:30 PM
Los Angeles	Anaheim	10:00 PM
Arizona	Seattle	10:00 PM
Calgary	San Jose	10:30 PM
Wednesday, April 10		
Chicago	St. Louis	8:00 PM
Vegas	Edmonton	8:30 PM
Arizona	Vancouver	10:30 PM
Thursday, April 11		
Washington	Buffalo	7:00 PM
Columbus	Florida	7:00 PM
Philadelphia	NY Rangers	7:00 PM
Detroit	Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Ottawa	Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
New Jersey	Toronto	7:00 PM
Montreal	NY Islanders	7:30 PM
Winnipeg	Dallas	8:00 PM
San Jose	Seattle	10:00 PM
Calgary	Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Friday, April 12		
Carolina	St. Louis	8:00 PM
Nashville	Chicago	8:30 PM
Arizona	Edmonton	9:00 PM
Calgary	Anaheim	10:00 PM
Minnesota	Vegas	10:00 PM
Saturday, April 13		
NY Islanders	NY Rangers	12:30 PM
Seattle	Dallas	3:00 PM
Winnipeg	Colorado	4:00 PM
Buffalo	Florida	5:00 PM
New Jersey	Philadelphia	5:00 PM
Tampa Bay	Washington	5:30 PM
Montreal	Ottawa	7:00 PM
Detroit	Toronto	7:00 PM
Columbus	Nashville	8:00 PM
Boston	Pittsburgh	8:00 PM
Vancouver	Edmonton	10:00 PM
Anaheim	Los Angeles	10:30 PM
Minnesota	San Jose	10:30 PM
Sunday, April 14		
Seattle	St. Louis	1:00 PM
Colorado	Vegas	3:30 PM
Carolina	Chicago	6:00 PM
Arizona	Calgary	8:00 PM
Monday, April 15		
Montreal	Detroit	7:00 PM
NY Islanders	New Jersey	7:00 PM
Nashville	Pittsburgh	7:00 PM
Buffalo	Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
Boston	Washington	7:00 PM
Ottawa	NY Rangers	7:30 PM
San Jose	Edmonton	9:30 PM
Minnesota	Los Angeles	9:30 PM
Tuesday, April 16		
Ottawa	Boston	7:00 PM
Carolina	Columbus	7:00 PM
Toronto	Florida	7:00 PM
Detroit	Montreal	7:00 PM
Washington	Philadelphia	7:00 PM
Seattle	Winnipeg	8:00 PM
Chicago	Vegas	9:30 PM
Calgary	Vancouver	10:00 PM
Wednesday, April 17		
Pittsburgh	NY Islanders	7:00 PM
Toronto	Tampa Bay	7:00 PM
St. Louis	Dallas	9:30 PM
Edmonton	Arizona	10:00 PM
Thursday, April 18		
Seattle	Minnesota	7:00 PM
Vancouver	Winnipeg	8:00 PM
San Jose	Calgary	9:00 PM
Edmonton	Colorado	9:30 PM
Anaheim	Vegas	10:00 PM
Chicago	Los Angeles	10:30 PM

UNRESTRICTED FREE AGENTS

There were still scores of players who had yet to sign NHL contracts by our press time in mid-August. Here are the most prominent ones

GOALIES	2022-23	GP	W	L	OT	GAA	SP
Jonathan Bernier	New Jersey			DNP			
Brian Elliott	Tampa Bay	22	12	8	2	3.40	.891
Jon Gillies	Columbus	3	1	1	0	4.47	.864
Jaroslav Halak	NY Rangers	25	10	9	5	2.72	.903
Michael Hutchinson	Columbus	16	2	6	3	4.29	.877
Anton Khudobin	Chicago	1	0	1	0	6.00	.786
DEFENSEMEN	**2022-23**	**GP**	**G**	**A**		**PTS**	**PIM**
Ethan Bear	Vancouver	61	3	13		16	25
Nathan Beaulieu	Anaheim	52	0	4		4	39
Jordie Benn	Toronto	12	1	1		2	12
Simon Benoit	Anaheim	78	3	7		10	60
Justin Braun	Philadelphia	51	0	2		2	19
Libor Hajek	NY Rangers	16	1	0		1	4
Scott Harrington	San Jose/Anaheim	45	4	7		11	10
Nick Holden	Ottawa	65	2	14		16	10
Caleb Jones	Chicago	73	4	12		16	40
Ryan Merkley	Colorado (AHL)	58	2	20		22	64
Ryan Murray	Edmonton	13	0	3		3	4
Patrik Nemeth	Arizona	75	0	5		5	30
CENTERS	**2022-23**	**GP**	**G**	**A**		**PTS**	**PIM**
Zach Aston-Reese	Toronto	77	10	4		14	25
Derick Brassard	Ottawa	62	13	10		23	30
Sam Gagner	Winnipeg	48	8	6		14	13
Derek Grant	Anaheim	46	5	13		18	26
Noah Gregor	San Jose	57	10	7		17	32
Darren Helm	Colorado	11	0	0		0	4
David Krejci	Boston	70	16	40		56	20
Tyler Motte	Ottawa/NY Rangers	62	8	11		19	6
Nolan Patrick	Vegas			DNP			
Mason Shaw	Minnesota	59	7	10		17	79
Devin Shore	Edmonton	47	1	8		9	4
Eric Staal	Florida	72	14	15		29	26
Paul Stastny	Carolina	73	9	13		22	16
Derek Stepan	Carolina	73	5	6		11	8
Pius Suter	Detroit	79	14	10		24	6
Jonathan Toews	Chicago	53	15	16		31	43
Colin White	Florida	68	8	7		15	12
LEFT WINGERS	**2022-23**	**GP**	**G**	**A**		**PTS**	**PIM**
Kieffer Bellows	Philadelphia	28	3	0		3	16
Anders Bjork	Chicago	14	2	6		8	2
Paul Byron	Montreal			DNP			
Max Comtois	Anaheim	64	9	10		19	76
Adam Erne	Detroit	61	8	10		18	21
Jonah Gadjovich	San Jose	35	3	4		7	57
Danton Heinen	Pittsburgh	65	8	14		22	12
Jujhar Khaira	Chicago	51	6	8		14	31
Joel Kiviranta	Dallas	70	8	1		9	40
Josh Leivo	St. Louis	51	4	12		16	25
Zach Parise	NY Islanders	82	21	13		34	24
Nick Ritchie	Arizona/Calgary	74	13	13		26	53
Evgeny Svechnikov	San Jose	59	8	6		14	26
Tomas Tatar	New Jersey	82	20	28		48	30
Austin Watson	Ottawa	75	9	2		11	123
RIGHT WINGERS	**2022-23**	**GP**	**G**	**A**		**PTS**	**PIM**
Josh Bailey	NY Islanders	64	8	17		25	2
Joonas Donskoi	Seattle			DNP			
Patrick Kane	Chicago/NY Rangers	73	21	36		57	16
Ondrej Kase	Carolina	1	0	0		0	0
Zack Kassian	Arizona	51	2	0		2	50
Phil Kessel	Vegas	82	14	22		36	30
Saku Maenalanen	Winnipeg	64	4	6		10	16
Jesse Puljujarvi	Edmonton/Carolina	75	5	11		16	32
Brett Ritchie	Calgary/Arizona	50	8	5		13	25
Buddy Robinson	Chicago	9	1	2		3	4
Wayne Simmonds	Toronto	18	0	2		2	49

**All times Eastern (ET)*

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NHL

ONE-YEAR WONDERFUL

We're in a unique 'bet on yourself' era, and it's created some fascinating storylines to keep an eye on across the league

BY RYAN KENNEDY

THINKING BACK TO this summer's opening of free agency, there was a distinct lack of wildness to the proceedings. Sure, some folks kicked up a fuss about Toronto signing enforcer Ryan Reaves to a three-year contract or Pierre Engvall getting a seven-year deal from the Islanders after a 24-game tryout, but there wasn't the typical anarchy. Most GMs were immune from charges that they were wearing a "It's Wine O'Clock" T-shirt when they picked up the phone on July 1.

Like most things in this NHL era, the salary cap played a large role in this phenomenon. And players (and their agents) were clearly betting on themselves for the future.

The salary cap has remained largely flat in recent years, with the last big jump coming between 2017-18 and 2018-19, when it increased by $4.5 million to $79.5 million. Since then, it stalled at $81.5 million for three seasons and has only gone up marginally after that – coming in at $83.5 million for the 2023-24 season.

There's no secret why the numbers conked out for a while: the pandemic hit the league's pocketbook hard, and the recovery is still underway, though it seems as if everything is finally catching up. Estimates right now have the cap going up to $87.5 million next summer and $92 million after that. Heck, you could buy a pretty good baseball player for that kind of cash!

But enough about numbers, because I am a journalist, and I was told there would be no math in this profession. What's truly exciting is the "bet on yourself" part of the equation, because it adds a little extra spice to the pot for this season.

Perhaps the best example to follow will be Tyler Bertuzzi, the talented and tenacious left winger who has been an Atlantic Division lifer, coming up with Detroit before being dealt to Boston prior to the trade deadline last season. Bertuzzi tied for the Bruins' lead in playoff scoring with 10 points in seven games, but, of course, the B's were done in by Florida in that seventh game – ruining what had been a dream season in Boston.

BLUE & WHITE LEAD TO GREEN?

Instead of signing a long-term deal, Bertuzzi bet he'll put up boffo numbers in Toronto and really cash in.

Nonetheless, Bertuzzi was one of the most coveted names on the UFA market, and ordinarily, such a talent could have easily found himself a seven-year deal somewhere, with big dollar signs attached. But Bertuzzi went with a one-year deal in Toronto, joining the Maple Leafs for the reasonable sum of $5.5 million. His best season to date came on a bad 2021-22 Red Wings team, where Bertuzzi notched 30 goals and 62 points in 68 games. Playing in Toronto, where his center will be either Auston Matthews or John Tavares, Bertuzzi has the golden opportunity to blast his previous highs out of the water and make a long playoff run after that.

Bertuzzi will be 29 when this season ends and will undoubtedly still be in high demand around the league. If he doesn't sign an extension in Toronto, he can hit the UFA market again with full knowledge that more money will be in the system, and he can cash in long-term for what will likely be his last major contract.

Another big storyline this summer came from buyouts, several of which were of the shocking variety. Again, this was because of the cap's stagnation, where teams had to do whatever they could to free up space if they wanted to execute a new plan. Nashville cast Matt Duchene aside, forcing the speedy center onto the open market, where he quickly signed in Dallas on a one-year deal worth $3 million. With the Stars and Predators both residing in the Central Division, that will make for some fun revenge games. But for Duchene, the new address in Texas also gives him a chance to flourish on a team with designs on a Stanley Cup.

Duchene wasn't the only big name to get bought out this summer. Blake Wheeler, Josh Bailey and Oliver Ekman-Larsson were tossed off by their teams, with a combination of performance and salary driving the decisions. Particularly in the cases of Duchene and Wheeler (who signed with the Rangers after he was cut by Winnipeg), their new teams could come out as big winners from this financial demolition derby.

But will we see this trend continue? Not likely. This is a unique time in the NHL's history. When the salary cap goes up as expected, the margin for error gets more forgiving, and we'll return to those wacky UFA deals we're used to. Because it's always Sign O'Clock somewhere... H

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